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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2004

平成12年4月9日 第三種郵便物認可 創刊号1月23日及び2月26日休刊

平成12年4月9日 第三種郵便物認可 訂正刊行2回及び2月26日刊行 50¢

Iraqis now in charge

U.S. returns sovereignty of Iraq 2 days ahead of schedule

■ Saddam to appear before an Iraqi judge in 'next few days' Page 3

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Left: Iraqi President Ghazi Al-Yawer, left, is sworn into office in Baghdad on Monday as others, from left, Vice President Ibrahim Al-Jaafari, Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih, look on. Right: U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer bids farewell to Iraq from Baghdad International Airport. He was flying to an undisclosed location after attending a ceremony officially transferring sovereignty to the interim Iraqi government.

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Medical marijuana: The Supreme Court said Monday it will consider whether sick people who smoke pot on a doctor's orders are subject to a federal ban on marijuana. The court agreed to hear the Bush administration's appeal of a case it lost last year involving two California women who say marijuana is the only drug that helps alleviate their chronic pain and medical problems.

Nader's campaign: Independent presidential candidate Ralph Nader, working to get the 1,000 signatures needed to get on the Washington state ballot, told supporters Sunday the Democrats trying to get him out of the race are overlooking their own failures. Jason Kalfury, one of Nader's national field coordinators, said volunteers had gathered more than 1,100 signatures for Nader in Washington and that more were to be gathered Sunday night.

College bonfire memorial: Most of the construction is finished on a \$5 million memorial to honor the 12 students who died during the 1999 college of the Texas A&M University bonfire.

University officials said the memorial will be ready for its dedication this fall on the five-year anniversary of the collapse.

Business

United Airlines bankruptcy: United Airlines on Monday lost a bid to secure a federal loan guarantee, a fresh setback to the carrier's efforts to emerge from bankruptcy. The federal panel that make the decision also said it would not entertain any other attempts by the airline to secure government backing.

Adelphia execs' trial: A federal court jury began deliberations Monday in New York in the trial of four former Adelphia Communications Corp. executives accused of looting the cable television system operator.

Adelphia founder John Rigas, 79, his sons Timothy and Michael, and former assistant treasurer Michael Mulcahey each face 30 years in prison if convicted of the most serious charge, bank fraud. They are accused of hiding \$2 million in debt from the company's investors.

Microsoft in EU: European regulators have agreed to temporarily hold off on forcing Microsoft Corp. to change its business practices until a court hearing later this summer, a company spokesman confirmed Sunday.



Bad weather: Jim Sadoris, left, tries to keep the water flowing between houses in Littleton, Colo., on Sunday while Josh Herman takes a break. More than 3 inches of rain along Colorado's Rocky Mountain foothills flooded streets and basements, destroying at least one house. Several people needed to be rescued from rising water.

The decision by the European Commission, following its ruling in March that Microsoft broke European Union antitrust laws, was largely a formality. Microsoft, which is based in Redmond, Wash., is appealing the ruling.

World

Subway strike: Pay talks between London Underground and London's subway drivers broke down Monday, and union leaders said a planned one-day strike will go ahead.

The Rail, Maritime and Transport Union has said it will strike for 24 hours starting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Pakistan leadership: A military-backed plan to appoint international banker Shaukat Aziz as Pakistan's prime minister was well-received Monday by investors and financial markets, but political observers decried the move as another sign that democracy is far from Pakistan's reach.

Some said his close ties to President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, who has pledged to restore full democracy in Pakistan, suggest that the military is reluctant to lose its grip on the country.

N. Korea willing to meet: North Korea's foreign minister said Monday he is willing to meet Secretary of State Colin Powell on

the sidelines of a regional forum.

"We have no plan to meet. But if they ask us to meet, we will meet," Foreign Minister Paek Nam Sun said after arriving in Jakarta, Indonesia, ahead of a meeting of the 23-member ASEAN Regional Forum.

Paek did not comment on what he might discuss with Powell, who is expected to attend the forum Friday.

Rockets from Gaza: Palestinians fired a barrage of homemade rockets at an Israeli border town Monday, killing an Israeli man and a 3-year-old boy as youngsters arrived at nursery schools.

It marked the first time in nearly four years of fighting that Israelis were killed by rockets from Gaza, and harsh Israeli retaliation was expected.

Militant surrenders: One of Saudi Arabia's most-wanted militants turned himself in Monday, a security official said, becoming the second militant to do so since King Fahd offered them temporary amnesty.

Othman Hadi Al Maqboul al-Amr, No. 21 on the list of 26 most-wanted militants issued by the Saudi Interior Ministry in December, surrendered near Halba bin Amr, 745 miles southwest of the capital, Riyadh, the security official said on condition of anonymity.

Stories and photos from wire services

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Iraq takes the reins — 2 days early

Report: GI killed by kidnappers

BY TAREK EL-TABLAWEY

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The U.S.-led coalition transferred sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government two days early Monday in a surprise move that apparently caught insurgents off guard, averting a feared campaign of attacks to sabotage the historic step toward self-rule.

Legal documents transferring sovereignty were handed over by U.S. governor L. Paul Bremer to chief justice Midhat al-Mahmoud in a small ceremony in the heavily guarded Green Zone. Bremer took change in Iraq about a year ago.

"There is a historical day... a day that all Iraqis have been looking forward to," said Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawer. "This is a day we are going to take our country back into the international forum."

But hours after the transfer, al-Jazeera television reported that Iraqi militants killed a U.S. soldier they held hostage for nearly three months, saying the killing was because the U.S. government did not change its policy in Iraq.

The report of the killing of Spc. Keith M. Maupin, 20, of Batavia, Ohio, did not say when the soldier was killed. Maupin was captured during an ambush on a convoy west of Baghdad on April 9.

The U.S. television network aired video showing a blindfolded man sitting on the ground. Al-Jazeera said that in the next scene, gunmen shoot the man in the back of the head, in front of a hole in the ground. It did not show the killing.



U.S. Administrator L. Paul Bremer, right, hands over documents to Iraqi Chief Justice Midhat al-Mahmoud, left, transferring sovereignty to Iraq at a Baghdad ceremony on Monday as Prime Minister Iyad Alawi watches.

Maj. Willie Harris, public affairs spokesman for the Army's 88th Regional Readiness Command, said the videotape is being analyzed by the Department of Defense.

"There is no confirmation at this time that the tape contains footage of Matt Maupin or any other Army soldier," he said, adding that the Maupin family was briefed "as to the existence of a videotape."

In the weeks leading up to the transfer, militants had conducted a campaign of car bombings, kidnappings and other violence that killed hundreds of Iraqis and was designed to disrupt the transfer, announced by the Bush administration late last year.

In Istanbul, Turkey, President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair celebrated the early transfer of political power to Iraq. "The Iraqi people have their country back," Bush said.

In the 15 months since Bush ordered the invasion of Iraq, more than 800 U.S. soldiers, more than 50 British soldiers and nearly 50 troops from other nations have been killed, and a surge of violence preceded the takeover that was scheduled for Wednesday.

"They've all given their lives in the cause of trying to give a better and different future to the people of Iraq," Blair said.

The response in Baghdad was mixed.

"Iraqis are happy inside, but their happiness is marred by fear and melancholy," said artist Qasim al-Sabti.

Two hours after the ceremony, Bremer left Iraq on a U.S. Air Force C-130, said Robert Tappan, an official of the former coalition occupation authority.

John Negroponte, the new U.S. ambassador to Iraq, arrived in Baghdad hours after the handover to take over political contact between Washington and the fledgling Iraqi interim government.

The new interim government was sworn in six hours after the handover ceremony.

Interim Prime Minister Iyad Alawi delivered a sweeping speech sketching out some of his goals for the country, urging people not to be afraid of the "outlaws" fighting against "Islam and Muslims," assuring them that "God is with us."

"I warn the forces of terror once again," he said. "We will not forget who stood with us and against us in this crisis."

Although the interim government will have full sovereignty, it will operate under major restrictions, and The Americans still will hold responsibility for security.

Saddam transfer said near

By FISNIK ABRAHIM

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Saddam Hussein will appear before an Iraqi judge in the "next few days" to face charges related to his 23 years in power, Iraqi and coalition officials said Monday.

A military spokesman said he will remain in a U.S.-run jail for now because Iraqi government does not have a suitable prison.

Over the next few days, the Iraqi authorities will be taking custody of 12 senior members of the previous regime, including Saddam Hussein," said Saleh Chalabi, the official in charge of setting up a tribunal.

The ousted Iraqi leader, however, will remain in the hands of U.S. troops, Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said Monday.

But the lawyer claiming to represent Saddam said the ousted leader should be released because handing him over would violate international law.

Ziad al-Khasawneh said the United States has no legal basis to keep prisoners now that it has transferred authority to an interim Iraqi government.

"International law dictates that in such a situation, the occupation authority must release all prisoners of war... and let them choose to leave to any country they wish to go to," al-Khasawneh said.

Saddam was granted POW status after capture. He hasn't been charged with any offense.

U.S. troops, citizens protected despite lack of SOFA

By LISA BURGESS
AND SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — U.S. citizens in Iraq can't be prosecuted for crimes by the courts there until elections are held in January, according to agreements that spell out the transfer of authority to the new Iraqi interim government.

The agreements protect not just U.S. troops in Iraq, but U.S. civilians accompanying troops, and have been written with the "unusual" provision that provides immunity for private contractors, said Michael Noone, a law professor at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. Noone specializes in status of forces agreements and is a retired Air Force colonel who served as a Judge Advocate General officer. SOFAs spell out the precise legal status of military troops stationed in other nations and their relationships to the host government's civilian authorities.

Because Iraq does not yet have a government that is recognized by the United Nations as permanent, the U.S. government has been unable to negotiate a SOFA that usually governs laws which affect U.S. military personnel on foreign soil.

Although there is no formal SOFA with the Iraqi government, "a SOFA is not neces-

sarily a document that's required" in order for U.S. troops to operate independent of a host nation and its legal system, Army Maj. Joseph Yowsa, a Pentagon spokesman, said Monday.

"There's other legal documents that allow us to operate" in the absence of a formal SOFA in Iraq, Yowsa said — four, to be precise.

In fact, the four documents pertaining to the transfer of authority are binding, Noone said.

The document that spells out the immunity in the most detail is a new version of the 17th order issued by the Coalition Provisional Authority.

The order was written by the CPA last year to grant immunity "from Iraqi legal process" to all U.S. government personnel, as well as civilian and military personnel from coalition countries.

Such individuals are "subject to the exclusive jurisdiction" only of the country that sent them to Iraq, and are "immune from any form of arrest or detention other than by persons acting on behalf of their sending states."

Last week, U.S. civilian administrator L. Paul Bremer and Ayad Allawi, prime minister of the interim Iraqi government, worked on the order directing the interim Iraqi government.

The CPA was dissolved in the wake of Monday's handover, but the CPA order is still in effect, thanks to a second key immunity document: the Transitional Administrative Law.

Better known as Iraq's "interim constitution," the TAL includes a number of provisions, such as a bill of rights for the Iraqi people.

The law also contains an annex that prohibits the interim government from making any changes to either CPA orders or to the main Transitional Administrative Law.

There are also two United Nations Security Council Resolutions, U.N. 1546 and U.N. 1511, that spell out immunity for the U.S. troops.

Taken together, "these four standing documents allow us to continue to do our operations in lieu of a SOFA," Yowsa said.

The immunity from prosecution in local Iraqi courts remains intact until elections are held next year. A U.N. resolution dictates they must be upheld until Jan. 31.

The CPA order says the transitional government cannot tinker with these arrangements as written, so servicemembers are protected until Iraq and a stable government. Troops' immunity from local law remains as long as the transitional government is in power," Noone said.

The documents also protect private contractors, Noone said.

"Typically, the protection [from local prosecution] does not extend to private contractors. The benefit to extending the protection is "because the country is so unstable and... they are receiving a legal system. Contractors otherwise might not be willing to send employees to a justice system that hasn't worked for years."

But there's a loophole, he said.

"And that loophole may be that an American contractor could commit a crime overseas and the Iraqis couldn't prosecute because of these documents and American authorities couldn't prosecute... American law traditionally didn't travel overseas. If an American contractor in Germany shoots someone, it's up to German authorities to prosecute them. American murder laws didn't work overseas."

However, it is possible that contractors and other U.S. civilians could be prosecuted by U.S. authorities under provisions in the American Servicemember and Citizen Protection Act of 2003, passed last year. American citizens from being prosecuted under the International Criminal Court.

"It seems to be that's what Congress intended to do, but it's a brand new law and we just don't know how it's going to work," Noone said.

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U.S. troops go on alert after early handover

Most welcome surprise move to steal thunder from terrorists

BY CHARLIE COON
AND JESSICA INIGO
Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — Soldiers in downtown Baghdad said Monday they were surprised to learn the Iraqi handover came two days earlier than expected.

The soldiers, members of the Oregon Army National Guard, added that they hoped the surprise move derailed any terrorism plans being made by insurgents who oppose the new government.

"I thought it absolutely took the wind out of their sails," said Spc Victor Zayas of Company C, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment. "I think they were trying to plan a big last stand or terror event and this just took it away from them."

The Coalition Provisional Authority, which has been running Iraq since the 2003 overthrow of Saddam Hussein, had planned to hand over authority on Wednesday to Iraq's new provisional government.

But the CPA instead transferred

power during a brief ceremony at 10:26 a.m. Monday at Prime Minister Iyad Allawi's office inside the heavily guarded Green Zone.

Soldiers guarding the Palestine and Sheraton hotels, where many foreign contractors and media are staying, noted that the handover did not mean a stop to business for the U.S. military.

"The handover is going to be slow," said Sgt. Eric Marsonette, 34, of Eugene, Ore. "If it happens too fast, it's going to be a shock to the [Iraqi] people."

"When the military pulls out, that's going to be the hardest time for them."

The troops said they were preparing for increased violence on Wednesday when the handover was supposed to take place.

On Monday, they said they found out just 10 minutes before it occurred that the event was moving up.

People who were trying to get into the hotels on Monday were slowed by increased security measures. They were searched more thoroughly than

usual by soldiers and Iraqi security personnel and were asked what business they had at the hotels, according to Sgt. Brian Hambrick.

"During the handover and after the ceremony, I thought terrorists were going to do something," said Hambrick, 33, of Springfield, Ore. "We just made plans for chaos."

After the ceremony, the Coalition Provisional Authority ceased to exist, according to Shane Wolfe, spokesman for the U.S. Embassy in Iraq, formerly the CPA. "They [CPA] were the authorized administration during the occupation," Wolfe said. "The occupation doesn't exist anymore, and the CPA ceased to exist after the handover was announced."

"People have been expecting all hell to break loose, like when the year 2000 came," said Spc. Moises Becerra of Eugene, Ore. "But nothing happened then."

"We won't know until tomorrow, but we'll be prepared as always."

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JESSICA INIGO/Stars and Stripes

Spc. Moises Becerra of Eugene, Ore., and Company C, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment, keeps watch Monday from inside his turret atop a Humvee outside of the Palestine Hotel in downtown Baghdad. The handover of power to the new Iraqi government caused soldiers outside the hotel to be on high alert.



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Japanese divers find sailor's body

Stars and Stripes

Japanese police divers on Monday discovered the body of a USS Patriot sailor missing since Sunday, when he disappeared in the waters near Nagasaki's Ryutosen Falls.

The diving team found Seaman Jared Valdez's body at 11:19 a.m., according to a Nagasaki Prefectural Police headquarters spokesman.

Valdez, 21, was pronounced dead at the scene by a Sasebo-based U.S. doctor who was helping with the recovery effort. The cause of death will be determined at an autopsy, Navy officials said.

Local police said 10 servicemembers including Valdez visited the falls, about a one-hour drive from Sasebo. They were taking turns jumping into the waterfall basin from a rock about 26 feet above the water, the police spokesman said.

The basin was swollen after the heavy rain, according to a town official. Police believe Valdez accidentally fell from the rock before he was ready to jump.

"Rock surfaces were very slippery after the heavy rain," the police spokesman said, and "no swimming" signs were posted.

Local fire station rescue units, police officers and town officials searched the basin but were initially unable to find Valdez, he said. The search was suspended after dark and resumed early Monday, he said.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service is investigating the death.

Valdez, a Houston native, had been in the Navy about eight months, Dorsey said.

Upgrades fixing Yokosuka gate shortfalls

By NANCY MONTGOMERY

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — Exactly one year before the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the Navy's largest overseas base finished installing anti-terrorism devices at one of its two entrances and began work to do the same at the base's main gate.

The project — to place hydraulic pop-up barriers just inside the Wombles and Carney gates to trap any vehicle trying to evade gate checks — cost the Navy almost \$500,000.

But four years — and thousands of deaths — into the war on terrorism, those same barriers have been found wanting. "They're a great idea. They're not ideally placed," said Capt. King Dietrich, base commander.

The barriers are too close to the gate, according to a security review, preventing adequate response time for sailors on guard duty to flip the switch and actually have the barriers pop up before infiltrators blast past them and into the base.

That's one of the things being fixed in a new, approximately \$2 million project currently under way to improve security at both

gates. Among other security upgrades are cameras installed in the ground to look for bombs underneath vehicles — which will preclude sailors having to do the checks with mirrors — and more secure guard shacks.

Although improved security is the motivating factor behind the work, Dietrich said, its benefits will include better traffic flow and an enhancement of the way the base, known for its aesthetics, looks. "It'll be one thing on the base that's not beige," Dietrich said.

In fact, cherry trees lining a walkway will be pink in spring, green in summer. But the most spectacular feature will be a wall with water cascading over it — all courtesy of Obayashi Corp., which was awarded the contract to design and build the new gates last September. "It'll be very attractive," Dietrich said.

Obayashi, one of Japan's top four general contractors, presented the winning concept with a presentation that talked about not only improving guard shacks, but also bringing together the idea of mountains and ocean in the new gate design.

That's a change from the sorts of things base public works generally build. "Public works is good at functional," Dietrich said.

Although no figures were available on what sort of traffic flow improvement was expected from the new design — which is scheduled to be completed by January but already has been delayed by the engineering demands of the cascading water wall — Dietrich said he expected a "significant" improvement. The improvement will be primarily at the Carney, or main, gate, because of a larger "stacking" area to get cars off Route 16. Also, an overhead walkway eventually will get pedestrians off the street and out of the way of turning cars. The overpass is being paid for by the Japanese government.

Yokosuka's mayor "loves this project," Dietrich said.

About two months ago, Japanese police arrested more than 10 residents police said may have ties to terrorism, including one man who had a cell phone business office across the street from the main gate.

Dietrich said the base was in "reasonable shape" in guarding itself against terrorist operations. But, he said, "I'll feel more comfortable when this project is completed."

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Strong charges recommended for Misawa airmen

By JENNIFER H. SVAN
AND CHIYOMI SUMIDA

Stars and Stripes

MISAWA AIR BASE, Japan — Two airmen from Misawa Air Base remain in police custody in Morioka city Monday on suspicion of attempted murder while their case is referred to the Morioka District Public Prosecutor's Office, said a spokesman for the U.S. Pacific East Police Station.

Darius Antonis Carlton and Michael Alan Maldonado — both 20 and airmen first class — were arrested at 4:23 a.m. Saturday. They are accused of beating two Japanese men on their faces and heads after the men intervened in a fight between the servicemembers and other Japanese in a Morioka city parking lot. Morioka is about 70 miles south of the base.

The prosecutor's office will determine whether to press charges. Police, meanwhile, are recommending a charge of attempted murder because the two suspects used brass knuckles to attack the Japanese men, the police spokesman said.

Both suspects were intoxicated at the time of the arrest, the spokesman said.

Carlton is assigned to the 301st Intelligence Squadron at Misawa, and Maldonado is with the 373rd Support Squadron.

The two Japanese men — a 42-year-old businessman and a 31-year-old driver — refused to be hospitalized and were released after receiving medical treatment, the police spokesman said. Their conditions were not immediately available but the spokesman said their injuries were not life-threatening.

In an e-mail statement Monday, base spokesman Capt. John Haynes said base officials intend to cooperate fully with Japanese authorities "in resolving this issue."

"We feel that nothing is more critical to our continued success at Misawa than our great relationship with the local community," he said. "In no way does Misawa Air Base leadership condone inappropriate behavior by U.S. servicemembers."

Haynes said Misawa Air Base community members are taught that possessing any form of lethal weapon is against community standards.

Nancy Montgomery at
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Tingting soaks Guam for second straight day

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Guam residents were drenched for a second straight day Monday by heavy downpours from Typhoon Tingting, which was upgraded Monday from a tropical storm.

At Commander, Naval Forces Marianas, 6 inches of rain had fallen since Sunday morning, base spokeswoman Lt. Arwen Conzual said Monday afternoon. Some areas in the south received up to 20 inches.

Tingting — a pet name for young girls in Hong Kong — continued to move away from Guam on Monday, churning north-west at 9 mph. The rain wasn't expected to let up any time soon.

"We're expecting flood damage and another 10 inches in the next day or so," Conzual said. No ships were damaged, but "a lot of trees have fallen over and there is a lot of flooding on base."

"I've never seen anything like it. You

Some southern areas get 20 inches of rain

look out your window and you can't see anything because of the rain and wind."

Only essential personnel were to report for work Tuesday at the Navy base, Conzual said, while nonessential personnel were on two-hour standby.

Most of the base, including the naval hospital, was operating on generators. The installation receives its electricity from Guam Power Authority. The Pacific Daily News reported Monday afternoon that there were power outages throughout the island. All of the south was without power. Conzual said Monday that power in base housing was turned back on after a 14-hour blackout.

Navy base residents were asked to conserve water due to the storm. Conzual said the rainfall stirrs up sediment in the reservoir. When that happens, "we have to shut down our treatment plant and go to our re-

serves," she said.

CNFM and Andersen Air Force Base to the north remained at Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness 4 as of Monday, base officials said.

As of 1 p.m. Monday, Tingting's center was 230 miles north-northeast of Guam and 100 miles north-northeast of Saipan, according to the Pacific Daily News. Maximum sustained winds at the storm's center were 75 mph, with gusts up to 90 mph.

"The main system will not affect Andersen," said 2nd Lt. Genieve David, a base spokeswoman.

Andersen experienced 58-63 mph gusts Monday and sustained winds between 40 and 46 mph, David said.

Storm damage will be assessed by the 35th Civil Engineer Squadron in coming days, David said. The base received 12 inches of precipitation from Tingting, in-

cluding 4 inches on Monday.

Members of Andersen's Navy Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 5 assisted the U.S. Coast Guard on Guam in Monday's search for a 19-year-old island resident swept out to sea earlier in the day near the Hilton Guam Resort and Spa in Tumon Bay, said Les Putnam, a search-and-rescue specialist for U.S. Coast Guard Marianas Section Guam.

A hotel guest watching the waves from her fifth-floor balcony said the search party "saw him bobbing in the surf for a while and then he disappeared," Putnam said.

The man was still missing as of Monday afternoon.

Waves breaking on the reef Monday were 15 feet high, Putnam said.

Three women who went swimming off Saipan drowned Sunday after getting caught in a rip tide, according to local news reports.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at: svan@pstrips.osd.mil

Iraq, Bosnia key concerns at NATO summit

BY WARD SANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

ISTANBUL, Turkey — The North Atlantic Council decided on Monday it was "possible" for NATO to train Iraqi security forces, though it wasn't clear how or when, or even where.

More forcefully, the council used the Istanbul summit to announce it would significantly boost peacekeeping in Afghanistan.

Leaders of the 26 NATO member states also gave Bosnia-Herzegovina its expected aid, with NATO planning to turn peacekeeping there over to the European Union by year's end.

And the council said it would open a loose dialogue with warring countries of the Middle East, and vowed to beef up naval counterter-

rorism operations in the Mediterranean, with possible help from Russia and Ukraine.

The impression of the council's 14-page communiqué was one of resolve. After a year of diplomatic strains over the war in Iraq, NATO declared it was not only alive, but ready to kick.

"In facing the security threats and challenges of the 21st century, allies will stand together," Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said. "NATO will remain the indispensable instrument to defend our freedom and security."

The reality may be more nuanced.

The Iraq statement, announced just a few hours after a surprise handover of sovereignty to Iraqis from the U.S.-led coalition, won't

necessarily result in the NATO flag flying in Baghdad. But it does give momentum to NATO training local, although possibly outside of Iraq — a stipulation apparently demanded by some states loath to deploy inside a newborn nation prone to explosive tantrums.

"How all this training will work out, I do not know yet," de Hoop Scheffer said.

The council seemed clearer on Afghanistan. It assigned a total of 10,000 troops to the International Security Assistance Force, which is now 6,500 strong, to secure the country's first free elections scheduled for September. The troops will establish four new provincial reconstruction teams complementing the one NATO now runs in Konduz.

Britain, Norway, Finland and Germany will man the new PRTs, which will all be based in northern Afghanistan. The U.S.-led coalition currently maintains another 13 in the country.

The expansion means NATO is proceeding with plans for a counterclockwise sweep across the desolate nation, and may soon move west — what one official called a "hub-and-spoke model."

En route to Kabul on his jet last week for inspections and brief-

ings, the commanding general of NATO described just such a web progressing by late summer.

"Everything starts in Kabul," said Gen. James L. Jones, the supreme allied commander. "It's like tentacles going out."

Jones said he believed NATO expansion there would help stabilize Afghanistan.

"Everything starts in Kabul. It's like tentacles going out."

Gen. James L. Jones
supreme allied commander

"We're not out of the woods yet," he said. "But there's an energy there. Young people are going to school, boys and girls." Females were denied the right to education in the Taliban era.

In addition to reconstruction, NATO will establish a new rapid response team in Herat, where about 70 U.S. soldiers now man a PRT. A NATO official was unable to say what relationship the NATO team would have with the U.S. mission.

The news will likely relieve troops there, who are also responsible for more perilous provinces nearby.

"It's the wild, wild West," Lt.

Col. James Ham, commander of the U.S. team in Herat, said over the weekend. He complained of government corruption, drug production and possibly two Taliban training camps in remote parts of his area.

The council decided to increase the number of C-130 airlift planes for Afghanistan by six and the number of transport helicopters by 18. Afghanistan will also see six more attack helicopters.

The alliance's defense ministers also decided to pursue a ground surveillance system similar to that of its Airborne Warning and Control System, or AWACS, platform. The alliance also announced a common interest in a theater missile shield and renewed commitment toward its NATO Response Force, an emergency army to deploy fast and light in times of crisis.

Though the council decided NATO will conclude operations in Bosnia, it will maintain its mission in Kosovo. When asked whether having Bosnian war crime suspects Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic at large sabotages the mission's success, the senior official said the responsibility for their capture was that of local authorities, not NATO.

E-mail Ward Sanderson at: sanderson@mail.estrps.osd.mil

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Reader's Digest wants to find out which military service is the funniest.

The monthly magazine is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its "Humor in Uniform" column by running a contest to find the most humorous true anecdotes from military life. Active-duty, Reserve and retired servicemembers and their families can participate.

Entries must be submitted to www.rd.com/storstrips by June 30. They also can be mailed to: "The Funniest Branch of the Military Contest," Reader's Digest, P.O. Box 1598, Newburgh, NY 12550.

Entries must include the entrant's full name, e-mail address and street address. Anecdotes should be no more than 100 words, true, original and related to the armed services.

The magazine's editors will select finalists from each service to appear in the September edition. Readers will then be asked to log on to www.rd.com to choose their favorite, and their votes will determine the winner.

The winner will receive an expense-paid trip for two to St. Kitts Marriott & Royal Beach Casino in the Caribbean. The other four finalists will receive \$500. Those whose anecdotes are selected for publication in future "Humor in Uniform" columns will receive \$300.

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Gitmo detainees may challenge their treatment

Supreme Court says Padilla improperly named Rumsfeld, must refile case

BY ANNE GEARAN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court dealt a setback to the Bush administration's war against terrorism Monday, ruling that both U.S. citizens and foreign nationals seized as potential terrorists could challenge their treatment in U.S. courts.

The court refused to endorse a central claim of the White House since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001: That the government has authority to seize and detain suspected terrorists or their protectors and indefinitely deny access to courts or lawyers while interrogating them.

The court did back the administration in one important respect, ruling that Congress gave President Bush the authority to seize and hold a U.S. citizen, in this case Louisiana-born Yaser Esam Hamdi, as an alleged enemy combatant.

That bright spot for the administration almost was eclipsed, however, by the court's ruling that Hamdi can use American courts to argue that he is being held illegally. Foreign-born men held at a Navy prison camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, also can have their day in U.S. courts, the justices said.

Ruling in the Hamdi case, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said the court has "made clear that a state of war is not a blank check for the president when it comes to the rights of the nation's citizens."

Hamdi and most of the Guantanamo detainees were picked up in antiterrorism sweeps in Afghanistan in the weeks after the attacks more than 2½ years ago. They have been held without access to most of the outside world since then.

Hamdi and a few of the Guantanamo detainees have only recently been allowed to see lawyers, and none of the men has been able to see family members or other visitors.

Steven R. Shapiro, legal director of the ACLU, called the rulings "a strong repudiation of the administration's argument that its actions in the war on terrorism are beyond the rule of law and unreviewable by American courts."

The court sidestepped a third major terrorism case, ruling that a lawsuit filed on behalf of detainee Jose Padilla improperly named Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld instead of the much lower-level military officer in charge of the Navy brig in

South Carolina where Padilla has been held for more than two years.

Padilla must refile a lawsuit challenging his detention in a lower court.

The court left hard questions unanswered in all three cases.

The administration had fought any suggestion that Hamdi or another U.S.-born terrorism suspect could go to court, saying that such a legal fight posed a threat to the president's power to wage war as he sees fit.

"We have no reason to doubt that courts, faced with these sensitive matters, will pay proper heed both to the matters of national security that might arise in an individual case and to the constitutional limitations safeguarding essential liberties that remain vital to our society even in times of security concerns," O'Connor wrote in the Hamdi case.

O'Connor said that Hamdi "unquestionably has the right to access to counsel."

The court threw out a lower court ruling that supported the government's position fully, and Hamdi's case now returns to a lower court.

O'Connor was joined by Chief Justice William Rehnquist and Justices Anthony Kennedy and Stephen Breyer in her view that Congress had authorized detentions such as Hamdi's in what she called very limited circumstances.

Congress voted shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks to give the president significant authority to pursue terrorists, but Hamdi's lawyers said that authority did not extend to the indefinite detention of an American citizen without charges or trial.

Two other justices, David Souter and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, would have gone further and declared Hamdi's detention improper. Still, they joined O'Connor and the others to say that Hamdi, and by extension others who may be in his position, are entitled to their day in court.

Hamdi and Padilla are in military custody at a Navy brig in South Carolina. They have been interrogated repeatedly without lawyers present.

In the Guantanamo case, the court said the Cuban base is not beyond the reach of American courts even though it is outside the country. Lawyers for the detainees had said to rule otherwise would be to declare the base a legal no-man's land. The high court's ruling applies only to Guantanamo detainees, although the United States holds foreign prisoners elsewhere.

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cardboard boat race

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Commissary
BBQ cook-off

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Yokota AB, Japan
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Years later, Saturn exploration set to start

BY JOHN ANTCAK
The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Two decades and \$3.3 billion in the making, an international exploration of Saturn begins this week when a spacecraft slips through a gap in the planet's shimmering rings and arcs into orbit.

After a seven-year, 2.2 billion-mile journey, the Cassini spacecraft will fire its engine Wednesday night to slow down, allowing itself to be captured by Saturn's gravity. The maneuver will inaugurate a four-year, 76-orbit tour of the giant planet and some

of its 31 known moons, including huge Titan.

To scientists, Saturn and its rings are a model of the disk of gas and dust that initially surrounded the sun, and they hope the mission offers important clues about how the planets formed.

Shortly after entering orbit, Cassini will act on its best chance to photograph the rings that long have entranced astronomers.

"We'll never be that close to the rings as immediately after the insertion," said Charles Elachi, director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and team leader for Cassini's radar instrument.

Cassini, laden with a dozen instruments, also carries a probe named Huygens that will be launched into the murky atmosphere of Titan.

The frozen moon intrigues scientists because it may have many of

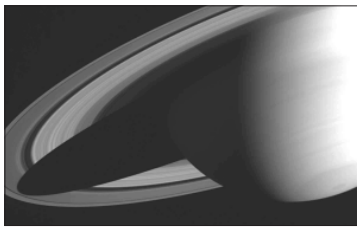
the chemical compounds that existed on Earth before life began.

Named for 17th century Saturn observers Jean Dominique Cassini and Christiaan Huygens, the joint project of NASA, the European Space Agency and the Italian Space Agency dates back to proposals made in 1982.

Many of the project's 260 scientists have spent years just planning the mission, building Cassini at JPL in Pasadena and getting the spacecraft out to Saturn.

Cassini has already been sending data to Earth, including a wealth of information and sharp images from a close flyby of Saturn's strange, battered old moon Phoebe.

Cassini is 22 feet long, 13.1 feet wide and weighs nearly 12,600 pounds loaded with fuel and the probe. Too far from the sun to rely on solar panels, it uses nuclear power to provide electricity.



The Cassini-Huygens spacecraft returned this image of Saturn on May 16, taken with its imaging science subsystem narrow-angle camera. After a seven-year, 2.2 billion-mile journey, the Cassini spacecraft should drift into Saturn's orbit Wednesday.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (June 30)	105.00
S. Korean won (June 29)	1,110.00
Euro (June 29)	1.253
British pound	1.585

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	\$1.8265
Canada (Dollar)	1.268
Denmark (Krone)	6.1214
Egypt (Pound)	2.7750
Euro	\$1.2164
Hong Kong (Dollar)	0.7790
Hungary (Forint)	207.99
Indonesia (Rupiah)	1,412
Israel (Shekel)	4.5025
Japan (Yen)	106.35
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2647
Norway (Krone)	6.3269
Philippines (Peso)	55.67
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)	1.768
S. Korea (Won)	1,149.60
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2482
Thailand (Baht)	40.85
Turkey (Lira)	1,452.53

(Military exchange rates are those paid to U.S. customers at military base exchange facilities in the country of issuance for purchases of U.S. goods and services. The Netherlands and the United Kingdom, for example, have no military base exchange facilities in Germany. U.S. purchasing British pounds in Germany is based on the local military base exchange facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates for one dollar, except for the buying currency. All figures are foreign rates for one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in British pounds-to-the-dollar, and the euro, which is represented in euros-to-the-dollar.)

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close	
Gold	\$402.90
Silver	\$6.125

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.00
Discount rate	2.00
3-month bill	1.25
3-month bank	1.30
30-year mortgage	5.35

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

Census budget woes

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Budget uncertainty has forced the Census Bureau to delay plans to expand an annual survey being tested to eliminate the need for the census "long form" now mailed to millions of homes at the start of each decade.

The American Community Survey* was supposed to be expanded to 250,000 households a month starting next week. It currently is mailed to about 68,000 homes monthly.

House appropriators negotiating the budget for the fiscal year starting in October have earmarked only about \$146 million for the project, roughly \$19 million less than what the Bush administration requested, census officials said Friday.

While budget talks aren't over, that development was

enough for bureau director Louis Kincannon to put on hold the expansion of the survey until at least November.

The extra money would have been used to hire and train about 2,800 workers, mainly part-timers, to handle the additional surveys, Kincannon said.

The bureau has been promoting the planned new survey for years as a replacement to the S-3 question "long form" that asks a cross-section of Americans about income, education and other detailed questions. Results would be updated annually, rather than once a decade, as is the case now.

Tight federal budgets have delayed the bureau's plans several other times in recent years. Kincannon says the latest delay hasn't changed the overall goal of eliminating the long form by 2010.

'Fahrenheit 9/11' blazes to opening weekend record

BY DAVID GERMAIN
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" took in a whopping \$21.8 million in its first three days, becoming the first documentary ever to debut as Hollywood's top weekend film.

If Sunday's estimates hold when final numbers are released Monday, "Fahrenheit 9/11" would set a record in a single weekend as the top-grossing documentary ever outside of concert films and movies made for huge-screen IMAX theaters.

Adding the film's haul at two New York City theaters where it opened Wednesday, two days earlier than the rest of the country, boosted "Fahrenheit 9/11" to \$21.96 million.

"Bowling for Columbine," Moore's 2002 Academy Award-winning documentary previously held the documentary record with \$21.6 million.

"Fahrenheit 9/11." Moore's assault on President Bush's actions after the 2001 terrorist attacks, won the top honor at last month's Cannes Film Festival and has attracted attention from both sides in the presidential campaign.

The movie has been embraced by left-wing groups, which mobilized members to see it during the opening weekend. Conservative groups sought to discourage theaters from showing it and asked the Federal Election Commission to examine its ads for potential violations of campaign-finance law regulating when commercials may feature a presidential candidate.

"I want to thank all the right-wing organizations out there who tried to stop the film, either from their harassment campaign that didn't work on the theater owners, or going to the FEC to get our ads removed from television, or to the things that have been said on television," Moore said. "It's only encouraged more people to go and see it."

The Wayans brothers' comedy "White Chicks," about two black FBI agents who go undercover as white debutantes, opened in second place with \$19.6 million for the weekend. That pushed the total for "White Chicks" to \$27.1 million since opening Wednesday.

The previous weekend's No. 1 movie, "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story," slipped to third place, taking in \$18.5 million and pushing its 10-day total to \$67.2 million. Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks' "The Terminal" fell from second to fourth place with \$13.9 million, raising its 10-day gross to \$41.8 million.

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ATSUBU NAME

Plan for Yankee Doodle band festivities

U.S. military bases in Japan, Okinawa and Korea will celebrate the Fourth of July holiday weekend with parades, pie-eating contests, concerts and fireworks.

Here, a list of major events planned in your area:

Japan

Atsugi Naval Air Facility

An 11:30 a.m. parade kicks off the Sunday celebrations in front of Ranger Gym, finishing at field field.

Atsugi's day of events includes games such as a bungee run, basketball and football throws, softball tournament finals, 2-on-2 volleyball, Sumo Smash Down, a hot dog eating contest, a jelly-o pie eating contest and the Waterslide Speed Challenge at the outdoor pool.

The Beach Toys Band, a beach boys cover band, will perform at 12 p.m., 1:25 p.m. and 3 p.m. at Atsugi Field. Cinema 77 will host the Clown Rockets at 1 p.m. and a kids' movie at 3:30 p.m.

Also offered will be a dunk tank, bumper boats, a long-drive demonstration of the golf course and a face-painting booth.

The fireworks display will begin at 7:45 p.m.

Yokosuka Naval Base

Games, activities, live performances and fireworks will be held Sunday at the Berkey Field Complex Main Field. The Jimmy Buffett tribute band A1A will perform at 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. The fireworks display is to begin at 8:01 p.m.

Misawa Air Base

An old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration is to take place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday in the Misawa Collocated Club.

Events include pie- and watermelon-eating contests, live entertainment from the stateside Lindsey Band, ventriloquist Willie Tyler and "Lester," children's games, face painting, giant Twister, sumo wrestling, jousting, prizes, giveaways, free food, a disc jockey and more.

No parking in the club parking lot will be allowed so activities can be moved outside, weather permitting.

Call 222-9512 for more information.

Camp Zama

Camp Zama is celebrating Independence Day on Saturday at Dewey Park. Kicking off the celebrations at 6 a.m. with the first Liberty Bell run. Race participants are asked to register at Yano Fitness Center by Friday.

The festivities include contests for hot dog eating, pie eating, jalapeno eating and watermelon eating.

There also will be a water-balloon toss, a ropes course race, a golf chipping contest, a tug-of-war, a gummy sack race, a "Hum n' Pull" and a canoe relay race.

A six-person-team sand volleyball tournament will be held at Dewey Park at 1:45 p.m. for teams who register at Yano by Friday.

Scheduled entertainment includes a disc jockey starting at 12:45 p.m. and the Far East Texas Band at 4:30 p.m.

The U.S. Army Japan Band will perform at 6 p.m.; Charlie Nagatani is to take the stage at 6:50 p.m.

Fireworks are to sound off the night at 8:40 p.m.

Yokota Air Base

You can join the Red, White and Blue Golf Tournament on Saturday at Tama Hills Golf Course. Call 658-224-2420 for more information.

A County Fair will be held at 4:30 p.m. Sunday at Darling Field. Activities are to include free food, a Pacific Air Forces Band, a contest, an acrobatic tight rope act, face painting, T-shirt painting, a petting zoo, go-carts and pony rides. A fireworks show is to begin at 9:45 p.m. Call 222-4522 for more information.

Contestants may compete for \$1,000 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sunday in the Leaky Kon-Tiki II Canoeboard Boat Race at Yokota's Natatorium. Judging begins at 11:30 a.m. Call 658-225-6133 for more information.

Sunday's BBQ Kings and Queens contest, beginning at 8 a.m. on Yokota's parking field, offers cash prizes: \$250 for first place, \$100 for second and \$50 for third. Judging begins at 4:30 p.m. Call 658-225-4522 for more information.

Find out who makes the best cookies in the Colossal Cookie Challenge at the Tayo Recreation Center Sunday. Submit your baked cookies and recipes to the Tayo between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m.

Categories include holiday or special occasion (decorated); no bake (no oven needed); healthy; and special (everything else). Winning recipes compete at Pacific Air Forces level; PACAF winning recipes will be published in the Air Force Community Center Colossal Cookie Challenge Recipe Book. Call 658-225-6953.

The One-Pitch Softball Tournament is to begin at 8 a.m. Sunday at Wilkens Field. Call 658-225-6881 for more information.

The contest who collects the most items on the Scavenger Hunt list will win \$1,000. Lists are available between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday at the Tayo Recreation Center. Items collected must be turned in between 11 a.m. and noon Sunday at the Tayo. Other prizes are \$500, \$250 and \$125. Call 222-4522 for more information.

Tee-off is between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Sunday for nine holes of Goofy Golf on the Par 3 course. Contestants will use a tennis ball, not a golf ball, and scores will be matched randomly with another player. The lowest team score wins \$200; the second lowest, \$100; the third lowest, \$70. Winners will be announced at 6 p.m. at the County Fair on Darling Field.

Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station

Base residents and their guests are invited to a party at Penny Lake, beginning at 3 p.m. Sunday. A fireworks show begins at 8:30 p.m. If Sunday is rained out, the fireworks display will be at 8:30 p.m. Monday.

Sasebo Naval Base

Sasebo officials are opening the base to the public from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday and the USS Essex will offer free tours from noon to 4 p.m. Bands will perform on two stages, near the mini mart and in the Galaxies parking lot.

Static displays will be placed on California Drive and a 15-minute fireworks display begins at 8:45 p.m.

All adult visitors must carry photo identification and bags will be searched at the gate.

Anyone touring the ship must wear closed-toe shoes and pants or shorts. If it rains, all activities will be moved to the Public Works Department parking garage and the Showboat Theater.

Other activities include:

■ A softball tournament on Sunday and Monday. Call 658-252-3588 for more information.

■ A 5-kilometer run at USO Nimitz Park begins at 9 a.m. Sunday. Call 658-252-3588 for more information.

■ A three-on-three basketball tournament at Devil Dog Park begins at 11 a.m. Sunday. Call 658-252-3588 for more information.

■ Little League exhibition games will be held Sunday at Nimitz Park. Call 658-252-2341 for more information.

■ A bowling tournament will be held Friday. Call 658-252-3634 for more information.

■ A golf tournament will be held Monday at Huls Ten Bosch. Call 658-252-3588 for more information.

Guam

Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas

The public is invited to Celebration Homecoming U.S.A., from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday at Polaris Point.

The annual event includes food, game booths, carnival rides and a 45-minute fireworks show beginning at 8:45 p.m. The event includes Ryan Anderson's magic show, a dance show, Keith Floyd's rhythm and blues band and Bata-Ba and Patti - Hawaiian bands.

Photo identification is required. Prohibited items include weapons, personal fireworks, backpacks, grills, glass containers, coolers, large bags, tents, audio video recording devices, pets, roller blades, skateboards and roller shoes.

Guests may carry diaper bags, small camera bags, purses, umbrellas and folding chairs. Call 671-339-5207 for more information.

Andersen Air Force Base

All are welcome to attend the Freedom Fest Fourth of July celebration at Arc Light Park from noon to 9 p.m. Friday.

Kicking off the Independence Day event will be a parade stepping off at 11 a.m. from Andersen's back gate to the park.

Freedom Fest officially begins at noon, with free food, door prizes that include two round-trip tickets to Hong Kong, events for children, games for adults and live music by the band Keith Floyd.

Children's activities are to include horseshoe and caribou rides, a "Bounty Castle," face-painting, hula-hoop contest, three-legged race, sponge relay, tricycle race, limbo contest and a fishing pond.

Adults can take part in a tug-of-war, sack race, horseshoes, egg toss, three-legged race and a water-balloon toss.

Entertainment options include a K-9 demonstration, USDA snake display and music by the Keith Floyd band.

Staff reports

Sunday, July 04 from 1600 to 2100 on Berkey Fields 1 and 2
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Celebration

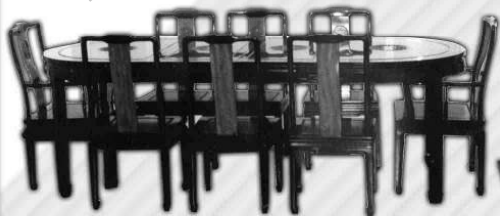
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MOVIE REVIEW



photos from Twentieth Century Fox

Ben Stiller takes flight during the ultimate dodgeball competition in the comedy "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story."

Dodging intellect for laughs

Low blow humor in 'Dodgeball' wins laughs with cheap shots

BY JAY BOYAR

The Orlando Sentinel

"**A**im low." That's the motto of the dodgeball team from the down-and-dirty Average Joe's gym. And that could also be the motto of the movie about that team, "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story."

A crude-and-grungy comedy, it's in the disreputable tradition of such Farrelly brothers flicks as "Kingpin" and "Dumb & Dumber," only it's not quite so lowdown. "Dodgeball" also bears a certain family resemblance to the grungy (and funny) "Old School," especially since Vince Vaughn (the villain in "Starsky & Hutch") stars in both.

This time, Vaughn plays Peter LaFleur, owner of Average Joe's. He and the gang of misfits who hang out at the rundown gym are just minding their own inexplicably weird business when a pumped-up nitwit named White Goodman enters their lives.

"Here at Globo Gym, we're better than you," proclaims White, played by Ben Stiller (yes, Stiller again), on the commercials for his super-glitzzy fitness empire. "And we know it!"

White wants to take over Average Joe's, which may not be too difficult: Peter owes the bank \$50,000 and only has 30 days to come up with it. That's where the dodgeball angle comes in.

One of the Average Joe's gang notices an ad in *Obscure Sports Quarterly* for a dodgeball tournament in Las Vegas. The gang



From left, Missi Pyle, Ben Stiller and Jamal E. Duff unleash their full fury during a game.

has never played dodgeball together, but the tournament prize is \$50,000, so they decide, what the heck? Newcomer Rawson Marshall Thurber, who wrote and directed "Dodgeball," gets off a few good jokes here and there. But too many of his gags rely on easy grunge humor or stunt casting, or simply misfire.

It's funny, in a vaguely whimsical way, to suppose that there's a publication called *Obscure Sports Quarterly*. Or that the dodgeball competition is televised on something called ESPN 8.

But it just seems dumb, or at best tired, that one of the Average Joe's underdogs insists on dressing like a pirate (including a

Find the movie reviews and times in **Stripes' new feature section Scene** starting July 4.

red bandana). Or that the Average Joe's team is forced to compete in S&M garb. Or that Kate Veatch, a businesslike attorney who becomes Peter's love interest, is secretly a unicorn buff.

And it seems almost desperate the way such celebrities as William Shatner, Chuck Norris and David Hasselhoff keep popping up in cameos.

OK, they're not such hip guys. We get the point. (Yes, Lance Armstrong's cameo is funny.) For what it's worth, the owl-eyed Vaughn gets an understated Bill Murray vibe going now and then. And Christine Taylor ("Zoolander") stays focused as the comely Kate. The gang at Average Joe's includes Justin Long (TV's "Ed"), Stephen Root ("Jersey Girl"), Chris Williams, Joel Moore and Alan Tudyk (as the pirate), with the legendary Rip Torn as their hard-driving coach.

As for Stiller, he appears to be giving his all to his dim-bully musclemann character. But his take on White is too broad and obvious to be fun for long.

True, Stiller seems to achieve exactly what he set out to do. Like just about everyone else, however, he is aiming low.

JAPAN

Asagi
WED-TUE: To be announced.
Bong (Misawa)
WED: The Punisher, 7 p.m. THU: Connie and Carla, 7 p.m. FRI: Ella Enchanted, 7 p.m.; Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 9:30 p.m. SAT: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 1 and 7 p.m. SUN: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 1 and 5 p.m. MON: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m. TUE: Envy, 7 p.m.
Sagamihara
WED: Walking Tall, 6 p.m. THU: No movie. FRI: Garfield: The Movie, 3:30 and 9 p.m. SAT: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, noon; The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers, 4 p.m.; The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King, 8 p.m. SUN: Garfield: The Movie, 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. MON-TUE: No movie.

Sakura (Iwakuni)
WED: Ella Enchanted, noon; Connie and Carla, 3 p.m.; Jersey Girl, 7 p.m. THU: Hellboy, 7 p.m. FRI-TUE: To be announced.

Showboat (Sasebo)
WED-TUE: To be announced.
Village (Sasebo)
WED-TUE: To be announced.
Benny Decker (Yokohama)
WED: 13 Going on 30, 5:30 p.m.; The Alamo, 8:30 p.m. THU: Ella Enchanted, 1 p.m.; Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 5:30 p.m.; Laws of Attraction, 8:30 p.m. FRI: Ella Enchanted, 5:30 p.m.; 13 Going on 30, 8:30 p.m. SAT: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 1 and 5:30 p.m.; The Terminal, 8:30 p.m. SUN: Ella Enchanted, 1 p.m.; 13 Going on 30, 5:30 p.m.; Mean Girls, 8:30 p.m. MON: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 1 p.m.; Mean Girls, 5:30 p.m.; The Day After Tomorrow, 8:30 p.m. TUE: To be announced.
Yokosuka Fleet
WED: The Day After Tomorrow, 6 p.m.; The Punisher, 9 p.m. THU: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 6 p.m.; Connie and Carla, 7 p.m. FRI: The Punisher, 1 p.m.; Laws of Attraction, 9 p.m.; Godsend, midnight, SAT: Godsend, 6 p.m.; The Punisher, 9 p.m.; Envy, midnight, SUN: Envy, 6 p.m.; Godsend, 9 p.m. MON: The Terminal, 6 p.m.; Johnson Family Vacation, 9 p.m. TUE: To be announced.

Yokota
WED-TUE: To be announced.

KOREA

Yongsang South Post No. 1
WED: The Punisher, 7 p.m. THU: The Punisher, 7 p.m. FRI: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 5:30, 8:30 and 11 p.m. SAT: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 2, 5 and 8 p.m. SUN: The Terminal, 2, 5 and 8 p.m. MON: The Terminal, 4 and 7 p.m. TUE: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m.

Yongsang South Post No. 2
WED: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed, 6 p.m. THU: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed, 6 p.m. FRI: Ella Enchanted, 7 p.m. SAT: Ella Enchanted, 3 and 6 p.m. SUN: Home on the Range, 3 and 6 p.m. MON: Home on the Range, 3 and 6 p.m. TUE: Envy, 6 p.m.

Yongsang South Post No. 3
WED: Connie and Carla, 6 p.m. THU: Connie and Carla, 6 p.m. FRI: Ella Enchanted, 7 p.m. SAT: Ella Enchanted, 3 and 6 p.m. SUN: Home on the Range, 3 and 6 p.m. MON: Home on the Range, 3 and 6 p.m. TUE: Johnson Family Vacation, 6 p.m.

Casey
WED: Johnson Family Vacation, 7:30 p.m. THU: Ella Enchanted, 7:30 p.m. FRI: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. SAT: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. SUN: Garfield: The Movie, 3:30 and 6:30 p.m. MON: Garfield: The Movie, 7:30 p.m. TUE: Envy, 7:30 p.m.

Eastvians
WED: No movie. THU: Hellboy, 7 p.m. FRI: No movie. SAT: Walking Tall, 7 p.m. SUN: No movie. MON: Johnson Family Vacation, 7 p.m. TUE: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m.



Catherine Zeta-Jones and Tom Hanks star in "The Terminal."

'Terminal' is optimistic without being soft

By CHRIS HEWITT
Knight Ridder/Tribune

Is optimism old-fashioned? Despite its present-day setting and themes, I kept thinking of "The Terminal" as old-fashioned, and I realized it's because the movie is so unabashedly hopeful about people and their dreams.

Hopeful but not happy. Steven Spielberg has clamped a lid on the impulse to tidy the life out of his stories, an impulse that marred movies such as "The Color Purple," and he gives "The Terminal" a buoyant sense of possibility.

There are the possibilities that Viktor Navorski longs for as he makes friends in an airport terminal, where he's stranded for months as he waits for a passport snafu to be unbooged. There are the possibilities for those friends, each of whom Viktor helps realize that they're living their lives in a holding pattern. And there

are the possibilities in this low-key movie, which seems alive to the possibility that every corner of its vast airport set harbors a story worth telling.

"Terminal" is best when it focuses on Viktor, whom Tom Hanks turns into a unique movie character. For much of the film, Viktor is an enigma—we don't why he's trying to get to America, what his life is like in his fictional European homeland or why he sticks to his trusty Planter's nut can like rice on roti.

There's a bit of Charlie Chaplin's the Tramp in Viktor, particularly in the early scenes, before he learns to speak English, and a bit of Peter Sellers' "Being There" character, too. Viktor is a blank, and the people he meets—airport employees, a flight attendant (Catherine Zeta-Jones), a snide airport manager (Stanley Tucci)—see in him what they want to see.

Viktor is immediately likable because he's played by Hanks, but he becomes more compelling as Hanks bring him into focus. Like

the immigrants on whose back this country was built, Viktor brings unique skills to his quest to survive here. And he shows a canny ability to pick up the American way of getting things done, too, outwitting Tucci at every turn (although Tucci's over-the-top, overacted petty natsyrcat is the movie's most notable defect).

I also wonder if "The Terminal" coasts too much on Hanks' charisma. The movie waits a long time before beginning to reveal his secrets, probably because they turn out to be pretty small secrets.

It's an interesting flaw in a movie that uses the word "waiting" a lot.

Some of the characters are waiting for dreams that aren't worthwhile. Some are aimlessly wasting their time. Some are sticking around for something wonderful. Which of those applies to Viktor? The answer is worth the wait.

SHOULD YOU GO? It's a gentle, leisurely fable that relies on character instead of visual flash to keep us interested.

OKINAWA

Camp Carry Owen
WED: No movie. THU: The Girl Next Door, 7 p.m. FRI: No movie. SAT: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. SUN: The Punisher, 3 and 7 p.m. MON: The Punisher, 7 p.m. TUE: Connie and Carla, 7 p.m.

Greaves
WED: Hellboy, 7 p.m. THU: The Girl Next Door, 7 p.m. FRI: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. SAT: The Punisher, 7 p.m.; Talking Lives, 9 p.m. SUN: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. MON-TUE: No movie.

Henry
WED-HU: No movie. FRI: Connie and Carla, 7 p.m. SAT: No movie. SUN: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. MON: Ella Enchanted, 2 p.m.; Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. TUE: No movie.

Howdy
WED: The Punisher, 7 p.m. THU: Envy, 7 p.m. FRI: Envy, 7 p.m. SAT: Garfield: The Movie, 6 p.m.; Twisted, 9 p.m. SUN: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m. TUE: Garfield: The Movie, 7 p.m.

Howza
WED: No movie. THU: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. FRI: Walking Tall, 7 p.m. SAT: Walking Tall, 7 p.m. SUN: The Girl Next Door, 7 p.m. MON-TUE: No movie.

Humphreys
WED-TUE: To be announced.
Kunsan
WED-TUE: To be announced.

Long
WED-TUE: To be announced.
Osan
WED-TUE: To be announced.

Page
Closed for renovation.

Pusan
WED-HU: No movie. FRI: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m. SAT: Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed, 2 p.m.; The Punisher, 7 p.m. SUN: Connie and Carla, 7 p.m. MON-TUE: No movie.

Red Cloud
WED: No movie. THU: Garfield: The Movie, 7 p.m. FRI: Garfield: The Movie, 7 p.m. SAT: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 2, 7 and 9 p.m. SUN: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 2 and 8 p.m. MON: Ella Enchanted, 7 p.m. TUE: Envy, 7 p.m.

Stanley
WED: Garfield: The Movie, 6 and 9 p.m. THU: Johnson Family Vacation, 7 p.m. FRI: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m. SAT: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 and 9 p.m. SUN: Envy, 7 p.m. MON: Ella Enchanted, 7 p.m. TUE: No movie.

Foster
WED: The Punisher, 7 p.m. THU: Garfield: The Movie, 7 p.m. FRI: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m.; Envy, 10 p.m. SAT: Ella Enchanted, 1 p.m.; Garfield: The Movie, 4 and 7 p.m.; Kill Bill Vol. 2, 10 p.m. SUN-TUE: To be announced.

Courtney
WED: Walking Tall, 7 p.m. THU: No movie. FRI: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. SAT: Home on the Range, 2 p.m.; Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 6 and 9 p.m. SUN: The Punisher, 7 p.m. MON: Johnson Family Vacation, 7 p.m. TUE: No movie.

Futenma
WED: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 6:30 p.m. THU: No movie. FRI: Johnson Family Vacation, 6:30 p.m. SAT: Connie and Carla, 1:30 p.m.; The Punisher, 6 p.m. SUN: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 1:30 and 6 p.m. MON: Johnson Family Vacation, 6:30 p.m. TUE: No movie.

Hansen
WED: The Passion of the Christ, 7 p.m. THU: The Passion of the Christ, 7 p.m. FRI: The Day After Tomorrow, 6 and 9 p.m. SAT: The Day After Tomorrow, 6 and 9 p.m. SUN: Ella Enchanted, 2

p.m.; The Day After Tomorrow, 5:30 p.m. MON: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m. TUE: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m.

Keystone (Kadena)
WED: Johnson Family Vacation, 7 p.m. THU: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 1 and 7 p.m. FRI: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 6 p.m.; Kill Bill Vol. 2, 9 p.m. SAT: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, noon. The Terminal, 4 and 7 p.m. SUN: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, noon. The Terminal, 4 p.m.; Johnson Family Vacation, 5 p.m.; The Punisher, 8 p.m. MON: The Punisher, 6 p.m. MON: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. TUE: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 7 p.m.

Kinser
WED: Garfield: The Movie, 7 p.m. THU: The Notebook, 7 p.m. SAT: Ella Enchanted, 3 p.m.; Envy, 6 p.m. SUN: Kill Bill Vol. 2, 7 p.m. MON: No movie. TUE: Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban, 7 p.m.

Schwab
WED: No movie. THU: Walking Tall, 7 p.m. FRI: The Punisher, 7 p.m. SAT: Johnson Family Vacation, 5 p.m.; The Punisher, 8 p.m. SUN: The Punisher, 6 p.m. MON: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. TUE: Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story, 7 p.m.

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Stars and Stripes UPDATES 45002 is published daily (except
Christmas and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and 75 cents Sunday
by the Stars and Stripes central office, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350,
Washington DC 20045-1301. Periodicals postage paid at San Fran-
cisco, Calif.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes,
Unit 45002, APO 96337-5002.

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Who do murderers respect?

In response to the June 24 article "U.S. attitude needs to change": I do not re-
member reading any letters from Ameri-
cans who said that what happened at Abu
Ghraib [prison] was justified. I do re-
member reading numerous letters com-
mending those acts as un-American. In
fact, I don't ever recall having read or
heard of any Americans condoning those
abuses. Our linguist friend should re-
member that the difference between us
and them is that those men are on trial
for their abuses.

When will the murderous acts of the
terrorists who harassed Nick Berg and
Kim Sun-il ever receive their trial? The
writer may be quick to charge the United
States as having little respect for culture
and religion, but that's just a smoke
screen.

Let's take a look at the Army's "little re-
spect for culture and religion." Americans
soldiers cannot drink alcohol in
country. American soldiers cannot openly
display religious crosses, crucifixes or
any other religious ornamentation pub-
licly. American soldiers cannot eat pork
or pork products in country.

The writer challenges Christianity as if
the guards were acting in the name of
Christianity, which they were not. They
were acting by themselves for them-
selves and will be tried and punished ac-
cordingly. Let's challenge Islam then.
Every terrorist so far has claimed to act
in the name of Islam. Does Islam claim
to justify the murders of two innocent men
who were trying to help the Iraqi people?

That's the real smoke screen. Terrorists
have hijacked Islam, yet no Arab or
Muslim has tried to claim it back. In that
sense, the real hypocrites lie in the Arab
and Muslim people. People like the writer
want to blame America, Christianity
and Judaism for their own failures.

There is no excuse for what those
guards did. No American ever said what
they did was right, Christian or even
American. Talking with my fellow sol-
diers, we all agree it is unacceptable,
un-American and just plain wrong.

If the letter writer really was ashamed
for working with Americans, he would re-
sign immediately and not wait for the out-
comes of the trials. Hypocrites indeed.

Capt. Son Lam

Camp Zama, Japan

Militants or terrorists?

I was disappointed by the headline for
the June 24 article "S. Korean hostage be-
headed by militants."

Since when is a group that kidnaps an
American civilian, holds him hostage and
then issues demands for his release, and
murders him when their demands are
not met, called "militants"? Why not call
them what they are: terrorists.

These are actions of a terrorist group
rather than militants. Webster's defines

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militants as "ready and willing to fight." OK, who did the "militants" fight when
they kidnapped and murdered the un-
armed civilian?

On the other hand, terrorism is defined
as "use of force or threats to demoralize,
intimidate, and subjugate." Sounds more
like what these supposed "militants" ac-
tions were. What is the problem in call-
ing these people for what they are, terror-
ists?

Are media outlets afraid they might
make the (terrorists) angry by placing a
label on them? By substituting the word
"terrorists" with the less-inflammatory
word "militants" is the media making its
appalling actions less outrageous?

It sure sounds like it to me.

Master Sgt. Steven Law

Lajes Field, Azores

Bush actions parallel enemies

Evil is as evil does, and one of the most
evil actions that the leader of a nation can
do is to launch an unprovoked, hostile in-
vasion and occupation of another coun-
try.

This action is the purest form of evil,
and it seems to be the common link,
in the resumé of history's most evil lead-
ers: Adolf Hitler, Josef Stalin, Benito
Mussolini, Hideki Tojo, Kim Jong Il
and Saddam Hussein are a few of the most
recent leaders to use this evil instrument of
aggression.

They all told their cheering patriotic
countrymen that, by invading another
country, they were making their own
country, safe, secure and strong.

Instead, their evil actions brought war
and destruction upon the world.
With the unprovoked, hostile invasion
and occupation of Iraq, President Bush
has joined the group of evil leaders.

It is said that Saddam killed 300,000
Iraqis in his 20-plus years as the leader
of Iraq.

According to some estimates, the Bush
invasion is said to have killed between
5,000 and 10,000 Iraqi military members.
To be fair, let us use the lower number of
5,000.

Estimates on the number of Iraqi civil-
ians killed ranges between 10,000 and
50,000. Again, I'll use the lower number
of 10,000.

That puts the total Iraqi killed by
Bush's invasion at 15,000 in a little more
than one year.

Divide Saddam's 300,000 killed by his
20 years in office, and you have both
men, evil leaders, killing at least 15,000
men, women and children at the same
pace.

Now factor in our nightly raids into
Iraqi homes, the abduction of hundreds
of Iraqis sent off to prison camps such as
Abu Ghraib, where there are tales of tor-
ture, murder and rape. Yet so many of us
can't see the evil caused by this Bush in-
vasion.

One can't have it both ways. One can't
say that Saddam tortured hundreds at
Abu Ghraib, then say that American sol-
diers, and not Bush, are torturing hun-
dreds at Abu Ghraib.

If Bush doesn't want to take responsi-
bility for the actions caused by his unpro-
voked, hostile invasion and occupation of
Iraq, then resignation is always an op-
tion.

This past Memorial Day, we honored
the brave heroes who had defeated past
evil leaders who invaded and occupied
other countries. Now I call on all brave
Americans to use the ballot box, and de-
feat the newest evil leader that ordered
the unprovoked, hostile invasion and oc-
cupation of Iraq.

James Carretters

Heidelberg, Germany

Support what is right

I am writing in response to the June 26
letter "Bush needs our support." I am a
15-year-old girl, and I have an opinion
about President Bush.

The letter writer says that people
should stop bashing President Bush, and
asks, "Didn't people choose him to be the
one to make our country's future better?"
In fact, people didn't choose him; Al
Gore won the popular vote; Bush only
won the electoral college votes. Not only
that, Bush's Cabinet members, who are
also making military decisions, are not
elected, but appointed by the president.

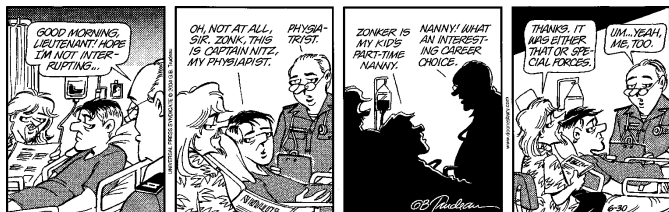
The letter writer says that Bush "didn't
ask for any of this to happen." Bush may
not have asked for a war, but he did ask
to be president.

The point is that she may have been try-
ing to get across is that Americans chose
Bush and we should support him. My
point is that we didn't choose Bush, and
we should support what we believe to be
right.

Erin Tomkins

Gamberry, England

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



OPINION

Women's work woes were not so long ago

And now for a small story from the *Later-day Annals of Working Womanhood*.

Fresh out of college in 1963, I got my first job at *Newsweek* magazine. In those days, women

Ellen Goodman



were hired as researchers and men were hired as writers... and that was that.

It was, as we used to say, a good job for a woman. As I grew about working for the men we studied with in college, we did it privately. It was the way things were.

I don't share my garden-variety piece of personal history as a female. I don't share my garden-variety piece of personal history as a female. I don't share my garden-variety piece of personal history as a female. I don't share my garden-variety piece of personal history as a female.

But what they don't know, I have found, is that this was legal.

It was legal to have segregated ads that read "male wanted" and "female wanted." It was legal to fire a flight attendant if she got married. It was legal to get rid of a teacher when she became pregnant.

If a boss paid a woman less because she was a woman, he was unapologetic. If he didn't want to hire a woman for a "man's job," he just didn't.

We sometimes forget that the lives of men and women didn't simply passively evolve.

But on Friday, we'll celebrate the 40th anniversary of a powerful engine of this social change, the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

One unexpected word was tucked into Title VII of that landmark legislation banning racial segregation and discrimination: sex. Legend has it that Howard W. Smith, a Virginian and head of the House Rules Committee, introduced sex as a joke. He was trying to ridicule the idea that you could legislate social behavior.

But the segregationist was just half of an odd couple. The other half were feminists. The National Women's Party had been trying to get such a law long before they brought it to Smith. After he introduced the amendment to ripples of laughter, Rep. Marsha Griffiths of Michigan, one of only nine women in Congress, argued for it fiercely.

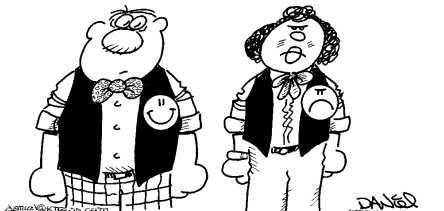
Omitting sex, she said, would protect only African-American males from discrimination. And if blacks were protected, the only unprotected class left would be white women.

When President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the bill, it became illegal for the first time to discriminate in employment on the grounds of sex. What had seemed to many like a "natural" way of treating men and women differently because of their roles in the family and society became what the courts now call "invidious."

"Title VII legitimized women's search for equality in the work force," says historian Alice Kessler-Harris.

This 40-year "search" has seen enormous success stories. In the first Title VII case, the Supreme Court ruled that it was illegal to refuse to hire a woman because she had small children. Under pressure, newspapers stopped segregating their employment

WAL-MART



pages. Women tipped into some "male jobs" and took hold in others.

Today's working women sometimes wonder whether we've won the booby prize — the right to be treated like men. We haven't yet figured out the next phase, how to get a support for family and work.

But there are still plenty of reminders that the bad old days are not so old. Just last Tuesday, a federal court allowed a class-action suit on behalf of 1.6 million women employees of Wal-Mart. When a single mother discovered that her male counterpart made \$23,000 more, her Wal-Mart boss replied,

"He has a wife and two children to support." When a woman wanted to sell hardware, she was sent to sell baby clothes. And another woman looking for a promotion confronted a store manager who said, "Men are here to make a career and women aren't."

When the old feminists lobbied the old segregationist to include sex, Smith said mischievously and maybe maliciously, "I don't think it can do any harm... maybe it can do some good."

He was joking. But they were left smiling.

Ellen Goodman is a member of Washington Post Writers Group.

Democrats following an old script: 'The Outsiders'

By JAMES K. GLASSMAN

Scipios Howard

In a private conversation on the Senate floor last week, Vice President Dick Cheney hurled the "F-word" at Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., an intemperate critic. Cheney wouldn't repeat. "I expressed myself rather forcefully," he said. "Felt better after I had done it."

You can hardly blame him.

As Iraq has moved closer to democracy over the past few weeks, the terrorist opponents of sovereignty, as expected, have grown more desperate and more violent in their counterinsurgency.

A similar pattern has occurred in the United States. As Republicans have moved closer to consolidating power in all three branches of government, Democratic opponents of free-market conservatism have grown more desperate and more rhetorically violent in their counterinsurgency.

Just listen to the former vice president of the United States, Al Gore. "How dare the incompetent and willful members of this Bush/Cheney administration humiliate our nation and our people in the eyes of the world and in the conscience of our own people!" he screamed at a speech May 26 [in] New York. "How dare they subject us to such dishonor and disgrace. How dare they drag the good name of the United States of America through the mud!"

But no event epitomizes the Democratic strategy better than the June 23 premiere of "Fahrenheit 9/11." Michael Moore's propaganda film, which former National columnist Christopher Hitchens describes as "an exercise in moral frivolity... facile crowd-pleasing... [and] abject political cowardice."

Until now, Moore has been an outlier, a fringe character, a petulant extremist. Armond White, in the current issue of the New York Press, a counterculture weekly, calls

him a "fascist liberal." In *The New York Times* on Saturday, David Brooks showed how Moore's political philosophy is rooted in an abiding hatred of his countrymen, displayed with gusto abroad.

Americans "are possibly the dumbest people on the planet," Moore told the British paper *The Mirror*. "We've got that big [expletive] grin on our face all the time because our brains aren't loaded down," he told a crowd in Munich, Germany. "The U.S. government started the war in Iraq in order to make it easy for U.S. corporations to do business in other countries. They intend to use cheap labor in those countries, which will make Americans rich," he told a Japanese newspaper. "It's all part of the same ball of wax, right? The oil companies, Israel, Halliburton," he said in Cambridge, England.

So Moore is radical and a hater. But we've had a lot of those in our history. The big difference is that Moore is now embraced by

the Democratic Party's establishment. Among those paying homage at his film's Washington opening were Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, Democratic National Committee Chairman Terry McAuliffe and Florida Sen. Bob Graham, a Democrat. What on earth are these people doing at a Michael Moore premiere? They're scared. America has been undergoing a sea change over the past quarter-century, and Democrats, in this election, are trying to turn back the tide. Whatever it takes.

In the 1970s, more Americans identified themselves as Democrats than Republicans by an average of 21 percentage points; in the 1980s, the margin slipped to 11 percentage points; today, the parties are dead even.

Republicans... have held the White House for 16 of the past 24 years, and their appointees are in the ascendancy in the Supreme Court. No significant Democratic legislation has been signed into law since the 1993 tax increases.

No wonder the Bush campaign characterizes Democrats as "wild-eyed." In that desperation, they seem willing to debase, if not destroy, their own party.

I doubt this approach will work. Republicans are certainly vulnerable, and the administration's postwar planning in Iraq deserves criticism. But the director of "Fahrenheit 9/11" is wrong.

Americans aren't stupid. We don't like extremists, don't admire Marxist-style rhetoric and can recognize conspiracy fantasies when we see them. We admire cold determination, optimism and pride.

A better strategy for Democrats would have been to show America a clear, rational alternative and make the Republicans look like the wild-eyed ones. Despite Cheney's outburst, it's way too late for that now.

James K. Glassman is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and host of the Web site TechCentralStation.com

Mallard Fillmore

By BRUCE TINSLEY



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Fatal highway crash

AZ PHOENIX — A bus traveling from Los Angeles to Texas went through an intersection as it left the highway and crashed, killing two people and injuring 13, police said. Authorities were investigating, but the cause of the wreck was not immediately known. The bus driver was believed to be among the dead; about 40 people were aboard.

Instead of turning left or right upon exiting the interstate, the driver went through an intersection and onto a lot where empty buses were parked, officials said.

The bus ripped through a fence before slamming into two empty buses and two steel storage containers. No one was on the lot at the time, Detective Tony Morales said.

Deadly fall at park

UT ZION NATIONAL PARK — A 14-year-old boy died in a 1,000-foot fall during a Boy Scout hike in Zion National Park.

Kristoffer N. Jones of Long Beach, Calif., was at Angels Landing, a popular but steep hiking spot in the southern Utah park, when he fell off a cliff Friday afternoon. National Park Service spokesman Ron Terry said. A search and rescue crew had to rappel down the cliff to get to the boy, which was recovered Saturday morning.

Terry said the troop was hiking along a trail when Jones fell.

"The incident is under investigation, but we don't know the cause at this time," Terry said.

Members of Jones' troop were taken to a church where they were counseled by park staff and members of the ward of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Restoring streams

HI HONOLULU — A petition seeking to restore water to four streams in the Central Wailuku region of Maui has been filed with the State Commission on Water Resource Management.

Earthjustice said that it filed the petition on behalf of two community groups, Maui Tomorrow and Hui o Na Wai Eha.

Waiehe, North and South Waiehu, Iao and Waikapu streams hold historic and ongoing significance as natural and cultural resources, the environmental law firm said.

The streams continue to be drained often completely dry by diversion works operated by former plantation interests, Earthjustice said.

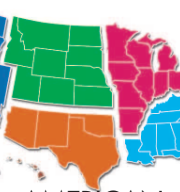
The petition is similar to the one that began the landmark Waialeale Ditch case on Oahu, it said.

Embarrassing fire

CA SALINAS — A costly fire in an embarrassing location has led to a battle in court.

Officials here say an illuminated nature scene sparked a blaze that caused \$2 million in damage in a building that lacked sprinklers, fire alarms and smoke detectors—even though it served as headquarters for Salinas' chief fire-prevention officer.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection concluded that faulty electrical components in the backside picture of a wa-



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

terfall, a gift to the fire marshal from his wife, caused the August 2002 fire.

The city is suing the owners of the store where the gift was purchased; Los Angeles-based Telstar Trading Co., which city lawyers claim is the product's distributor; and New Continental International Corp. of Ontario, identified as the manufacturer.

Cabin fever at Baxter

ME MILLINOCKET — For decades, campers have lined up on New Year's Eve to be the first in line the next morning to reserve just one night in Lookout Cabin, which is Baxter State Park's most popular spot.

Perched on granite boulders, the cabin with a wall of windows and a chorus of bullfrogs feels like it's part of the Dacey Pond.

Mount Katahdin, in the distance, glows when the sun sets.

So it's also easy to understand why some campers aren't taking kindly to the notion of Lookout Cabin and nearby Outfit Cabin being razed this fall to make way for a modern bath house, airstair cabin.

Park director Irvin "Buzz" Caverly Jr., who conceived the plan, argues that pricey historic preservation is not the park's role. Park father Percival Baxter's instructions give clear priorities for how the park should be managed, and the human history of the area is not among them.



Back to the future

The replica keelboat of the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles navigates past the Kansas City, Mo., skyline. The re-enactors are on their way to Kaw Point, which is at the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas rivers.

Baby stabbed

UT ST. GEORGE — A man who took a baby hostage stabbed the infant during a standoff with police before officers shot and wounded the man in the hip.

The baby was flown to a Salt Lake City hospital with stab wounds to some internal organs, but was expected to live, St. George spokesman Craig Harding said.

Police identified the suspect as Valentin S. Echevarria, and said the child was believed to be his girlfriend's. Officials were not sure if the child was his.

The child's mother ran to a neighbor and called police, saying she had been stabbed in the hand by a man who still had her baby in her home.

When officers saw Echevarria stab the baby, they tried to subdue him with the beanbag rounds, then bullets, Harding said.

Echevarria, 28, had been deported recently, Harding said. He was treated and released for a gunshot wound to the hip, then taken to a jail and held on charges of aggravated attempted murder and aggravated kidnapping, Harding said.

Bias crime

NY EGG HARBOR TOWNSHIP — Slurs against people of Middle Eastern descent were spray-painted on a house near the hometown of a contractor slain in Saudi Arabia, and police were calling it a bias crime.

Police said Khalil Bano, 46, found the graffiti on his southern New Jersey home on Thursday.

A Muslim group said it worried the graffiti was in response to the slaying of engineer Paul Johnson Jr. last week.

Johnson, 49, a helicopter engineer who grew up in nearby Eagleswood Township, was beheaded by militants on June 18, six days after his abduction.

Over the weekend, one man posted a sign saying "Stamp out Islam" on a utility pole in Eagleswood Township, another sign in Little Egg Harbor Township read, "Last night I wasn't a racist but today I feel racist towards Islamic beliefs."

Others in the community have condemned the signs and called for tolerance.

Light-rail trains returns

MN MINNEAPOLIS — Light-rail trains began carrying passengers in Minneapolis recently, 50 years after streetcar service ended.

The first of the sleek yellow-and-blue cars rolled out after a morning ceremony in the downtown Warehouse District and people waiting for the next train stood in a line that stretched a block long.

For now, the trains run only from the Warehouse District to historic Fort Snelling, about a 20-minute ride.

Full service, which would extend beyond Fort Snelling to Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport and on to the Mall of America in suburban Bloomington — 12 miles from the Warehouse District — is scheduled to begin in December.

The fare will be \$1.75 during peak hours and \$1.25 off peak.



Father knows best

Gabriel Foster, left, of Conway, Mass., watches his dad, Aaron, get dressed for a battle reenactment during Fort Ticonderoga's Grand Encampment of the French and Indian War in Ticonderoga, N.Y.



Look out below

Two members of the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team look at the jump site from the jump plane above the Davenport Airport in Davenport, Iowa, as they prepare to start the 2004 Quad-City Air Show.



Just hamming it up

Peter Kochler, left, and Perry Crampton, of the Northern Arizona DX Association, participate in the American Radio League's Radio Field Day from a camper at Ashurst Lake near Flagstaff, Ariz. Some 3,000 stations from Canada to Mexico are attempting to contact as many other ham radio operators as possible in a 24-hour period.



Cat woman Gloria Harding, of Hudson, Fla., gets an affectionate nudge from her 1-year-old Sphynx cat, Sundancerman, after he appeared in an all breed category of the Tampa Bay Feline Fanciers 10-ring ACFA Championship & Household Pet Show in Clearwater, Fla.



Big Apple shines New York City's Empire State Building is illuminated in lavender and white in honor of Gay Pride Week. The Chrysler Building can be seen to the right.



Passage to paradise Passengers disembark the "Pride of Aloha" in Hilo, Hawaii. The boat is the first U.S.-flagged cruise ship in nearly 50 years.

Patient's rights ruling

CT HARTFORD — The state Supreme Court ruled the state's Patient's Bill of Rights doesn't extend to prisoners. The court ruled in the case of Bryant Wiseman, 28, a mentally ill Hartford man who died after a prison fight. Wiseman's mother sued state prison officials, prison guards and prison health care workers, claiming they failed to properly treat her son's schizophrenia.

Benefits-loss reprieve

GA ATLANTA — Gov. Sonny Perdue offered a 90-day reprieve to 1,700 nursing home patients who had been scheduled to lose Medicaid benefits when the state's new budget year begins July 1. He said the delay will give them time to make new arrangements. But he left no hope he will reverse his administration's budget-cutting policies for that program.

Abandoned infants

CO DENVER — The body of a newborn baby boy was found in the trash in a women's bathroom of a sports bar a day after another child was found clinging to life in a trash bin in another part of the city.

The baby found by a cleaning crew appears to have been full-term, police spokeswoman Virginia Lopez said. She said it was not known how the baby died.

Police were searching for the baby's mother, and said they did not know if the child was born in the bathroom or brought there from somewhere else.

The infant found alive was placed on life-support at St. Anthony's Central Hospital, Lopez said. The hospital would not release information on the child's condition.

Firefighters were dispatched to the area after someone called to report a woman in labor in a house nearby. They found the baby wrapped in a blanket and placed inside a box in the trash bin.

Lopez said the mother was found and there was evidence that she had given birth. If the child dies, the 19-year-old mother would face the charge of child abuse resulting in death.

Under state law, parents may abandon a newborn baby within 72 hours if they leave the child at a hospital or fire station.

Police picket line?

MA BOSTON — The city's police union plans to picket all of Mayor Tom Menino's events at this weekend's U.S. Conference of Mayors, union officials say. During one event, the Boston Police Patrolmen's Association will rent a yacht to display a giant banner reading "How Many Mayors Does it Take to Sign a Contract?" The union has been working without a contract for two years.

Up, up and away

KS WICHITA — Competitors in an event billed as the longest all-woman air race in the world began gathering this week.

Thirty-three planes and 68 pilots

are expected to participate in this year's Air Race Classic. The event has its roots in the 1929 Women's Air Derby in which Amelia Earhart was among the competitors.

Improve nursing homes

TN KINGSPORT — The AARP is launching a campaign lobbying the state's government to improve the way long-term care is delivered in Tennessee. The state is "dead last" in providing alternatives to nursing homes, says AARP spokesman Brian McGuire.

Tennessee will spend nearly \$1 billion on nursing homes next year and only \$33 million on at-home and community-based services.

More ship inspections

AL JUNEAU — The Coast Guard plans to make on-board inspections of cruise ships docked in Juneau this season. Plans include monitoring passenger, crew, baggage and cargo security. By July 1, large passenger ships must have an automatic identification system, a device similar to a transponder that tracks the position of an aircraft.

Chugging along

MN ST. PAUL — A flotilla of riverboats will begin chugging up the Mississippi River this week in a re-enactment of the 1854 Grand Excursion. The original trip was organized by railroad officials hoping to promote development opportunities available on the frontier. Participants will set off from Rock Island, Ill., and travel to river cities for parties and festivals.

They're to arrive July 3.

No clowning around

NE NORTH PLATTE — Country singer Michael Martin Murphy wasn't amused by the bawdy humor of clowns at the Buffalo Bill Rodeo.

Murphy, who was honored at the Nebraska Days festival for promoting family values in his work, says the clowns are sending the wrong message.

"Why don't we try to clean up some of the so-called humor in rodeo so that it's better for our kids to attend?" he asked the crowd during his performance Saturday. He received the Buffalo Bill Award for "outstanding contribution to quality family entertainment" in the tradition of Buffalo Bill Cody, who based his famous Wild West Show out of North Platte.

When asked by The North Platte Telegraph about his comments, Murphy sent a letter stating that he was "disappointed, dismayed, shocked and sickened to hear the extremely dirty, smutty, below-the-belt 'humor' of the rodeo clowns."

Audience member Sue Elmsheuser said the clowns dumped out a suitcase of women's underwear and bras and then dragged them around the arena. Another clown who was dressed as a woman used large balloons for breasts, she said.

Elmsheuser said that one clown, after spotting Miss Rodeo America, exclaimed, "Looking at her makes me want to go home and slap my wife."

Stories and photos from wire services

Horoscope

We're headed for the full moon in Capricorn on Friday, which will bring an emotional release from all this tension. For now, try not to blow your top at anyone — this is all petty stuff masquerading as something terribly important. For that reason, it's best not to make any decisions in the heat of the moment. Everything looks different later.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 30). Winning is what you do best this year.

Consistent efforts to improve an important relationship will be rewarded. Believe the best about loved ones, and that's what they show you. January is a new start — focus on spiritual as well as financial issues, and you'll heal a troubled area of your life.

Special romantic partnerships include Aquarius or Gemini.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Breaking the rules will give you a thrill. You'll have good company in your rebellion, too, as some rules are just begging to be broken. You could even be the "sensible one" — nobody's ever accused you of that before.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). With great pride, you'll check something big off your list. Make a new goal immediately to avoid that old Napoleon depression. Remember how he cried when he thought there were no more worlds to conquer?

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). In this generally high-toned day, give your best energy to your work — that means going straight to task, no socializing or meandering. You could make the impression that puts you in the big leagues! Romance takes effort tonight.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your heart gets tug-of-war in alternately sensible and stupid directions. Thoughtful, sacred silences are necessary to sort this out. It's not what you say anyway but how able you are to follow through on those words that matters.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). A close friend encourages you to display your talent and may even help

finance your efforts. Set deadlines. Putting a stop to procrastination is your key to happiness. You'll be attracted to the "bad" girl or boy.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

You realize that you're not going to get the career boost you'd like without becoming a different person, at least in some small way. Transformation can be a long, drawn-out process, but not for you and not today.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Originality emanates from you, and you see the world from a slightly cockeyed point of view. Start a trend. Identify your friends who are the most connected, social and outgoing, and sell your idea to them first.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).

Do your own thing, and make others happy in the process. How often does that happen? More than you know. You're open to exploring a relationship that seemed like a bad idea just yesterday. It may still be a bad idea.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).

You're in a brave mood, and your stoic stance is rewarded, especially if auditions or interviews are part of the plan today. If you need a recommendation, you can get an outstanding one from a former employer or mentor now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).

Events occurring in your heart are both distracting and wonderful. Passion makes you feel totally alive — and a little out of control, too. You'll get the chance to explore options that were too expensive before.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).

You're ready to rest, but press on, soldier — you'll do much for your cause. You've got excellent taste — worldly and eclectic — and you could be asked for your critical opinion.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

It's obvious what's not working, and it's going to be very hard to take a neutral attitude about it.

Confront the problem. Start by owning your side. Keep looking for love until you find one who thinks the sun rises and sets with you.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



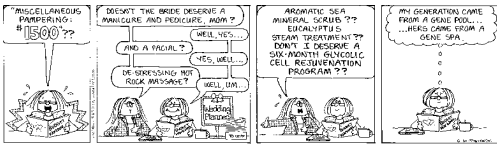
Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



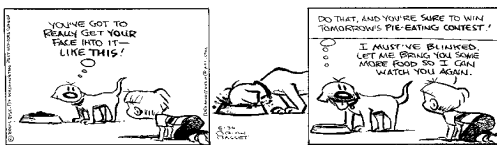
Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



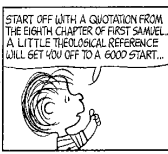
Red Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



Foxrot



B.C.



Baby Bites



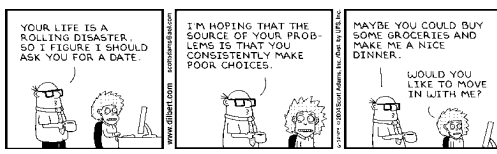
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



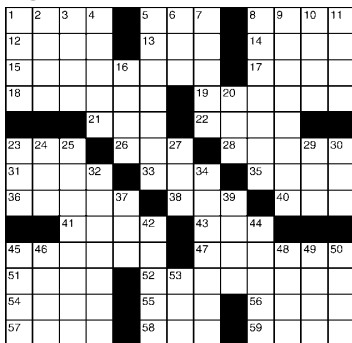
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 Dessert choice
- 5 Land's prominence
- 8 Puts together
- 12 Strong as —
- 13 "Home of the brave"
- 14 Journey
- 15 Temporary expedients
- 17 Writer Morrison
- 18 Modeling exec
- 19 Earl Grey's place
- 21 Wahine's gift
- 22 Actor Estrada
- 23 Gram, case
- 25 Pig's dogs
- 28 Livelines, in music
- 31 Section of London
- 33 Deluge refuge
- 35 Check card codes
- 36 Skier's place
- 38 Sun, speech
- 40 Barbie's ex
- 41 Rose or Rozelle
- 43 Verily
- 44 Loosens, in a way
- 47 Equal portions
- 51 Boulder
- 52 Bypass the cashier
- 54 State
- 55 The Carrington fortune
- 56 Stud fee?
- 57 Places
- 58 Bom
- 59 Egg container

Down

- 1 Docket entry
- 2 Con
- 3 Rapper — Moe
- 4 Doe
- 4 Dust
- 5 Hall of "South Pacific"
- 6 Cleo's slayer
- 7 Squander
- 8 Gals
- 9 Rugby tactic
- 10 Pebbles' pet
- 11 Skewer
- 16 Right-turn signals
- 20 Historic period
- 23 Balaram's ride
- 24 Sanders' title (Abbr.)
- 25 Chinese menu item
- 27 Gen. parts
- 29 West of Hollywood
- 30 Abby's sis
- 32 Jacks or better, usually
- 34 Peep's place
- 37 LAX info
- 39 Harvest
- 42 Big name in printers and scanners
- 44 The A in E.A.P.
- 45 Caspian Sea feeder
- 46 Smoked salmon
- 48 tarzan's transport
- 49 Small salamanders
- 50 Proofreader's notation
- 53 Waste not a moment

Answer to Previous Puzzle



6-30

CRYPTOQUIP

R DXNGBL EBPQC GRV
OFRO OFX SXLP HL R
NXGORPNRLO DNBWHCXG

SRLV WHOOQX GORHGOHEG.
Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF YOU'VE SOLVED SUNBATHING DILEMMAS, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE FOUND TANNING SOLUTIONS.

Today's Cryptquip Clue: O equals T

Boyfriend's drinking sinking couple

Dear Abby: I have been seeing "Gil" for a little over seven months. I love him, but he drinks a lot. A couple of nights ago he called me, roaring drunk. I told him he needed to stop drinking.

He swore on the love he had for me that he would quit. I asked him how long I wanted him to stop for. I asked him to stop for one month. I told him that if he drank during the 30 days, I'd break up with him.

Now Gil says that the promise he made doesn't count because he was drunk when he made it. He says he would never have made such a promise if he'd been sober. He told me he could quit for a month if he wanted to, but he doesn't want to stop.

I don't think this is fair to me because he swore on the love he has for me. Should I keep my word and end the relationship if he drinks? He's only 17, and I

don't want him to ruin his future.

Dear Sad: He may be only 17, but your boyfriend is already a problem drinker. He may care for you, but it appears he loves his alcohol more. Much as you might wish to, you can't save

another person; you can only save yourself. If you're as intelligent as I think you are, you'll keep your word and end the romance so you won't ruin YOUR future.

Dear Abby: My niece and nephew were living with their father, "Ron," and their stepmom, "Anita."

Ron walked out on Anita, and she turned and told the children — ages 11 and 12 — that it was their fault that their daddy left. They have since moved back with their mother, but they continue to cry and worry because of what Stepmommy Dearest said. (She had also hit my niece

with her fist and lied about it when confronted.) How can I help the children to adjust and understand? They are precious young people who badly need stability in their lives. — **Doting Aunt in Alabama**

Dear Doting Aunt: What your niece and nephew need in their lives, even more than words, is continuity. Assure them that you will be there for them as long as they need you.

Praise them for their good qualities. Explain that regardless of what may be in the heat of anger, adults rarely end their marriages because of anything a child may have done.

Have their father repeat what you have said. From your description of the stepmother, everyone will be better off with her out of the picture.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 6940, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

Dear Abby



Grandson's 'visions' worry grandma

Dear Annie: I am very close to my 12-year-old grandson, "Zach."

He says I give good advice. I felt confident guiding him, until now.

Last night, Zach confided that for several months, he has been having "visions." One is of a man, whom he described in detail. The second is a dog, and the last is an animal that he says resembles a polar bear. Zach says the visions last only a second before disappearing. He doesn't hear voices or anything like that.

My grandson is articulate, intelligent, sociable and not prone to exaggeration. He has no extraordinary problems at school or at home and doesn't exhibit symptoms of a medical problem. Zach asked me not to tell anyone something potentially serious.

— **Worried Grandma**
Dear Worried: You are a caring and loving grandmother. We

Annie's Mailbox



spoke with Dr. Carrie Freedheim, a child and adolescent psychiatrist in Tucson, Ariz. Here is her reply: Visual hallucinations can be associated with serious psychiatric disorders in children. However, from your description of your grandson, his overall functioning remains good. He is socially adept and not showing any other symptoms, which means he most likely does not have a serious psychiatric disorder such as childhood onset schizophrenia.

Frequently, visual hallucinations are associated with medical problems — primarily neurological disorders. Zach needs to be seen by his primary care physician and likely by a neurologist.

Dear Annie: I have been married to "Barry" for 20 years. Our marriage is a loving and supportive partnership, except when it comes to his mother.

Mom's passive-aggressive behavior toward me is the cause of most of our arguments. For years I've wanted to confront her about it, but Barry has asked me to put up with it and essentially shut up. How can I discuss this with my mother-in-law without alienating myself from the family?

— **Tired of the Cheap Shots in Madison, Wis.**

Dear Tired: First ask yourself what you will accomplish by confronting the woman, other than letting off steam. Do you expect her suddenly to realize how poorly she's treated you and do a complete about-face? That sounds unrealistic to us, with the end result being more hostility. It would help if your husband told his mother to knock it off, or if you could ignore her barbs. Since he won't, however, and you can't, please consider consulting a counselor.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please email your questions to annie@mailbox.com, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TORNS

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FELCT

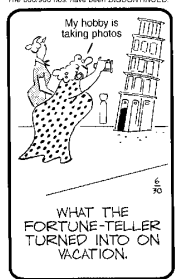
MOOSER

PELPIN

www.jumble.com

Answer here: A

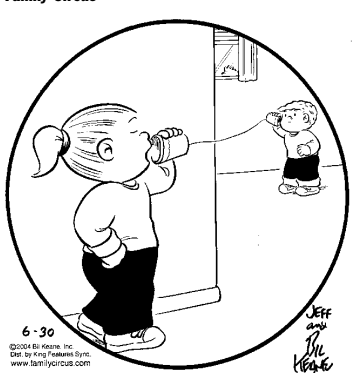
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henry Arnold and Mike Arington. The 800/900 nos. have been DISCONTINUED.



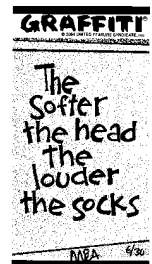
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's Jumbles: BURST ABASH ACHING HAWKER
Answer: What the recycling firm generated — TRASH CASH

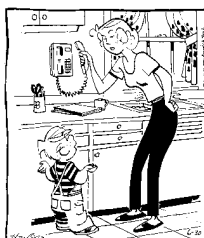
Family Circus



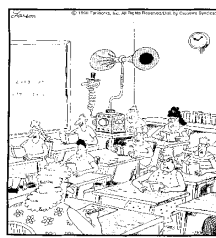
"This number doesn't take blocked calls. Say 'star 82' and then I'll answer."



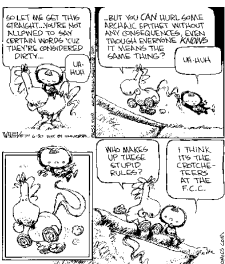
Dennis the Menace



The Far Side



Non Sequitur



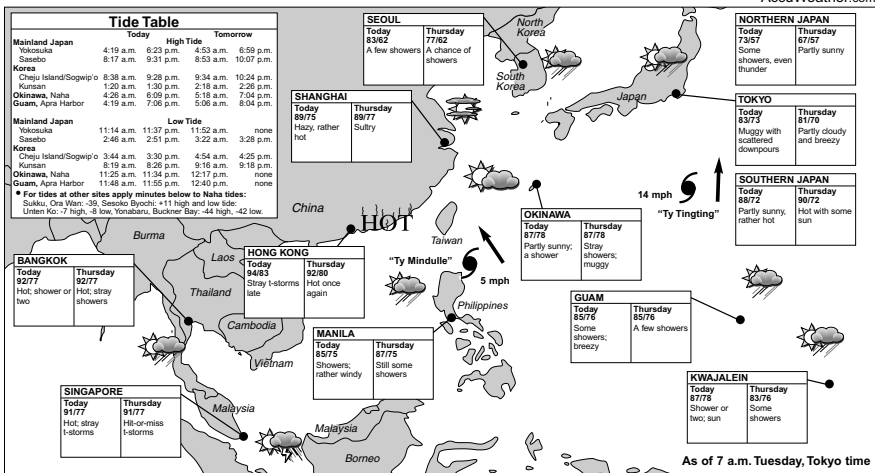
"HOW COME JOEY'S MOM IS UPSET THAT I GAVE HIM A HANGOVER? I ONLY CHANGED HIM A QUARTER."

The class was quietly doing its lesson when Russell, suffering from problems at home, prepared to employ an attention-getting device.

The Pacific Forecast

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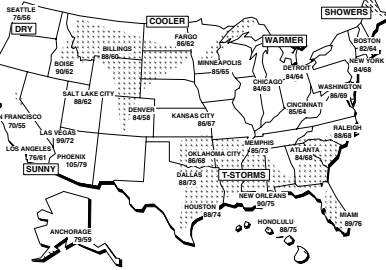
Extended Forecasts

TOKYO Friday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 81, low 69. Saturday: Showers, high 78, low 69.	KADENA Friday: Showers, high 87, low 78. Saturday: Showers, high 84, low 76.	SEUL Friday: Showers, high 84, low 65. Saturday: Mostly cloudy, high 85, low 67.	MANILA Friday: Showers, high 87, low 75. Saturday: Showers, high 87, low 75.	HAGATNA Friday: Showers, high 87, low 78. Saturday: Showers, high 89, low 78.
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Monday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	81/67	Little Rock	76/62
Amarillo	76/61	Louisville	84/69
Anchorage	72/58	Milwaukee	83/64
Ashville	77/59	Nashville	84/66
Baltimore	83/61	New York	80/66
Birmingham	80/69	Omaha	78/58
Bismarck	85/51	Orlando	92/74
Boise	88/64	Philadelphia	84/66
Boston	81/61	Phoenix	106/80
Brownsville	93/76	Pittsburgh	74/54
Buffalo	66/54	Portland, ME	75/54
Burlington	74/52	Portland, ME	75/54
Charleston, SC	86/72	Salt Lake City	89/64
Charlotte	84/66	St. Louis	84/62
Cleveland	70/54	San Antonio	89/73
Columbus, OH	76/57	San Diego	70/66
Duluth	76/52	San Juan	91/77
El Paso	88/63	Tampa	91/77
Hartford	79/57	Tulsa	84/66
Helena	80/53	Washington	83/65
Indianapolis	79/57	Wichita	78/61
Jacksonville	90/71		
Kansas City	78/59		

Wednesday, June 30



U.S. Extended Forecast

High pressure will bring plenty of sunshine to the Northeast on Wednesday. A stationary boundary across the Southeast the Deep South will help trigger numerous showers and thunderstorms from East Texas to the Atlantic Coast. Showers and thunderstorms will develop across the northern Plains and parts of the Rockies. Showers will move through the Great Lakes region Thursday as a storm moves through southeastern Canada. A cold front will bring more showers to the northern Plains, while afternoon showers and thunderstorms develop again across the Deep South. High pressure building across the Rockies will provide sunny skies with only a stray afternoon thunderstorm. Clouds will begin to increase across the Northwest.

Wednesday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	92/77	Kadena AB	87/78
Beijing	75/64	Kansan AB	81/69
Camp Casey	80/62	Kwajalein	87/78
Christchurch	51/36	Manila	85/75
Diego Garcia	82/75	Masawa AB	83/62
Hagatna	85/78	Osan	80/66
Hanoi	94/83	Perth	63/48
Hong Kong	90/71	Pusan	83/67
Honolulu	88/75		

Wednesday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	91/78	Budapest	77/57	Kabul	74/53
Athens	90/68	Buenos Aires	60/50	Kiev	65/42
Auckland	60/47	Cairo	102/77	Kuwait	109/84
Baghdad	108/75	Cancun	83/68	London	64/48
Barbados	89/73	Cape Town	59/43	Madrid	100/70
Barcelona	84/69	Geneva	81/63	Mexico City	75/57
Berlin	72/57	Istanbul	78/59	Montreal	76/60
Bermuda	83/71	Jerusalem	93/70	Mogadishu	80/70
Brussels	79/47	Johannesburg	65/47	Moscow	65/47

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• SPORTS

<p>JAPAN TV</p> <p>12:30n VLP (12)</p> <p>12:30n Jovine (1968): Bullitt (154)(12)</p> <p>5:50n CBS News</p> <p>6:15 Japan Pop Ball: Hakkaido Ninja-kun! Nam Fighters vs. Chiba Lion Riders (1982)</p> <p>6:24 Japan Pop Ball: Hanshin Tigers vs. Yomiuri Giants (1982)</p> <p>7:00 NHRK (News)</p> <p>7:25 State of Grace (3)</p> <p>7:50n CBS News</p> <p>10:00 America's Top Gun (12)</p> <p>12:25 Thunderbirds (3)</p> <p>1:55 Wimbledon Tennis 2004 (1)</p> <p>2:00n Best of the Best (1982)</p>	<p>3:27 Buzz Lightyear (6)</p> <p>JAPAN TV-B57</p> <p>Morning</p> <p>6:00 Top News from Around the World</p> <p>6:30 Top News from Around the World</p> <p>7:00 Top News from Around the World</p> <p>7:30n CBS News</p> <p>8:00 MLB: Boston Red Sox vs. New York Yankees</p> <p>11:00 MLB: Texas Rangers vs. Seattle Mariners</p> <p>Afternoon</p> <p>2:00n NewsHour</p> <p>3:00n Classical Music: Sendai International Music Competition - 1st</p>	<p>4:00 World News Hour</p> <p>5:00 CNN News</p> <p>5:25 ABC News</p> <p>Evening</p> <p>6:00 Japan Pop Ball: Seibu Lions vs. Chiba Kintetsu Buffers (1982)</p> <p>9:30n MLB Highlights</p> <p>10:00 Wimbledon Tennis 2004</p> <p>3:50 PBS NewsHour</p> <p>4:00 Asian News</p> <p>5:00 Top News from Around the World</p> <p>JAPAN TV-B511</p> <p>Morning</p> <p>6:30n Oswald No. 21</p> <p>7:30n Top Story: Friends (4)</p> <p>8:00 U.S. Movie (1947): Miracle on 34th Street (4)</p> <p>9:40 U.S. Movie (1940): The Last of the Mohicans (1)</p>	<p>Afternoon</p> <p>12:00n TV Series: Dawson's Creek</p> <p>1:30n Oswald No. 21 (9)</p> <p>Evening</p> <p>6:00 U.S. Movie (1962): The Miracle Worker (1)</p> <p>6:30n Punk: Best Episode</p> <p>7:00n UEFA Euro 2004 Soccer: semifinals Preview</p> <p>10:00 Brazilian Movie (2002): Cidade de Deus (214)</p> <p>12:30n U.S. Movie (2002): Gangs of New York (250)</p> <p>3:25 UEFA Euro 2004 Soccer: Netherlands vs. Portugal vs. Netherlands</p>	<p>8:00 Top Choice</p> <p>10:00 Pure Music</p> <p>11:00 Top Choice</p> <p>Afternoon</p> <p>12:00n YATL</p> <p>1:00n Punk: Best Episode</p> <p>1:30n Top Choice</p> <p>2:00n Top Choice</p> <p>3:00n Top Choice</p> <p>4:00n Top Choice Selection Live</p> <p>5:00n U.S. Fashion Wednesday</p> <p>7:00n Movie Awards (20)</p> <p>10:00 Making the Video</p> <p>11:00n Check the Rhythim</p> <p>11:00n The Osbournes</p> <p>12:00 Pure Music</p> <p>12:00n Rocks</p> <p>1:00n Fashion Wednesday</p> <p>2:00n Rock</p> <p>3:00n Clock</p> <p>4:00n M-Size Street Tuesday</p> <p>4:30n Top Choice</p> <p>5:00n Top Choice</p>
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2003 Liberation Day Queen and her Royal Court in the Liberation Day Parade

GUAM CELEBRATES ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION


Guam pays tribute to the U.S. forces that fought to free the island 60 years ago

Visitors planning to travel to Guam this July should not miss the upcoming month-long celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the island's Liberation Day. The official countdown to Liberation Day kicked off with the opening of the Guam Island Fair and Liberation Carnival on June 18 at the Paseo de Susana parade ground near Chamorro Village in the island's capital, Hagåtña. The month will culminate with major festivities including the Liberation Day Parade, memorial services and fireworks on July 21.

Highlights of the month-long 60th anniversary Liberation celebration program:

- Guam Island Fair and Liberation Carnival opens weekdays from 6:00 p.m. to midnight and 4:00 p.m. to midnight on weekends, June 18 to July 21.
- Weekly Saturday hikes, starting July 3 through 31, along historical military trails in different parts of the island, jointly organized by the Department of Parks & Recreation and National Park Service.
- A "nose art" exhibition titled "Honoring Women of the War" at the Council of Arts and Humanities. The exhibition is of paintings on the noses of aircrafts during WWII.
- "Remembering Manenggon - An Island Tribute" on July 10. An event to re-enact the last 1.5 mile walk by Chamorros to the Manenggon Concentration Camp opened by the Japanese in the final days of their occupation. Memorial service and unveiling of a monument to mark the site of the future Manenggon Memorial Peace Park.
- Merizo Massacre Memorial on July 16.
- Placement of some 1,800 flags at Asan Beach to commemorate each serviceman killed in action, July 17-22. Organized by National Park Service.
- 2004 Liberation Day Queen & Royal Court Coronation Ball, July 18.
- Asan Overlook Wreath Laying Memorial Ceremony sponsored by the Governor of Guam, July 19.
- The Fena Massacre Memorial, July 19.
- Naval Base tours, July 19 and 20 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Open to the public.
- Eve of Liberation Day, July 20. Candlelight vigil at Skinner's Plaza; Mass at the Agaña Cathedral-Basilica; military band performance at Skinner's Plaza.
- Liberation Day, July 21. Military bands, marching units, village floats, and Liberation Day Queen and her court highlight this event that expects to draw nearly 30,000 parade goers. The 2004 Liberation Day Parade starts at 10:00 a.m. from Aduap. Liberation Day Closing Fireworks at 9:00 p.m.

For more information, call toll-free (888) VET-GUAM (838-4826) or visit our website at www.visitguam.org



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Gordon back on course, wins in Sonoma

BY MIKE HARRIS
The Associated Press

SONOMA, Calif. — Jeff Gordon has been so dominant on NASCAR's road courses that it was considered a slump when he went four races without a victory. The slump is over.

Gordon overpowered the field and completed a near-perfect weekend Sunday with a victory in the Dodge/Save Mart 350 at Infineon Raceway.

It was his eighth road course victory, extending his own NASCAR record. But it was his first win at either Infineon or Watkins Glen — the only tracks where Nextel Cup cars turn left and right — since 2001 on the upstate New York circuit.

"In 2002, the competition got better, and we just got a little behind," Gordon said. "Last year, we got our act together and I felt like we were the best car and circumstances worked out to where we didn't win."

"This year, we've taken what we had last year and improved it. I feel like we should be a dominant force on the road courses."

That's exactly what the No. 24 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet was at Infineon, winning the pole Friday with a record lap, topping every practice session and setting another record by leading 92 of the 110 laps Sunday on the 1.99-mile, 10-turn course.

It was Gordon's fourth Infineon victory and his third from the pole. Gordon, who jumped from sixth to fourth in the driver standings, has three victories this season and 67 in his career.

His only real problem on Sunday was the heat. "It was so hot, the temperature at the scenic wine country circuit near 90 degrees, the ventilation system in Gordon's Chevrolet became as overpowered as his competition."

"Today, I was challenged by my physical fitness," Gordon said. "Those cautions we had with about 40 and 30 laps to go really helped me a lot. It gave me a chance to get a few moments to



Jeff Gordon, front, leads the field early in Sunday's Dodge/Save Mart 350 at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif. Gordon scored a dominating win. AP

relax and it gave the crew a chance to give me some ice packs and cool me down a little."

The late yellow flags also helped Gordon with another possible problem as crew chief Robbie Loomis cautioned him constantly on the radio to conserve gas.

"I was shutting the engine off rolling downhill and conserving any way I could," said Gordon, whose last pit stop came on lap 68.

"I drove out and got as big a lead as I could and gave a lot of up there at the end," Gordon said. "It was real tough."

It certainly didn't look it. Gordon beat surprising Jamie McMurray, in only his second start at the Sonoma track, to the finish line by 1.032 seconds — about 10 car-lengths, with road racing specialist Scott Pruett third.

"I knew Jeff was going to have to run off the track or go off up and, typically, he doesn't do that," McMurray said. "I was just waiting on him to make a mistake, but I was driving as hard as I could. . . . We were just hanging on."

Kurt Busch started third and vaulted past both Gordon and Rusty Wallace to grab the lead on the first lap, but Gordon quickly moved back into the top spot and stayed there the rest of the way except during pit stop sequences.

After he made his final stop, during one of six caution periods, Gordon found himself behind Casey Mears and rookie Casey Kahne, both of whom had pitted earlier.

Gordon quickly disposed of Kahne on the restart on lap 70, but it took him until lap 74 before he could work his way past former open-wheel racer Mears.

Once Gordon got back on top, he was not challenged again.

"I was so nervous all weekend that we were going to mess it up somehow," said Gordon, who came here with three finishes of 30th or worse in his past four races. "We've been running real well and just hadn't been getting the results."

"But I still felt a lot of confidence coming in here. This race team does not allow bad weekends to get them down."

Meanwhile, McMurray got past Wallace and Mears to grab second on lap 79, then spent the rest of the race trying without much success to cut into Gordon's lead.

Wallace, another of NASCAR's top road racers, was right behind Pruett in fourth when he ran out of gas after crossing the finish line a lap from the end. He wound up 28th as Michael Waltrip, who started 48th in the 43-car field,

took over fourth place. Series points leader Jimmie Johnson, Gordon's teammate, finished fifth.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. recovered from two spins to finish 11th, but his deficit increased from seven points to 27 behind Johnson in the driver standings.

NASCAR had boy Tony Stewart collided during the race with Ward Burton and Brian Vickers, then got into a clash with Vickers after the race. Vickers, a 20-year-old rookie, said he was still strapped into his car and talking with Stewart about the crash when the former series champion reached into the car, grabbed him and hit him with an open palm.

Both drivers were summoned to the NASCAR hauler. A NASCAR spokesman said there would be a further investigation before determining whether any penalties would be handed out.

Kupets, McCool virtually assured of Olympics berths

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Courtney Kupets and Courtney McCool can relax, knowing their trip to the Athens Olympics is all but assured. As for the rest of the U.S. team hopefuls, they still have one more test. And it's a biggie.

Kupets and McCool grabbed the two almost-guaranteed spots on the U.S. Olympic team Sunday with a 1-2 finish in the final day of trials. They still have to prove "readiness" during next month's selection camp at national team coordinator Martha Karolyi's ranch, even Karolyi said that's just a formality.

"It definitely helps, pressure-wise," said Kupets, the co-national champion. "You know what's going to happen. You don't have to worry about all the other stuff."

Plenty of other people do. Co-national champion Carly Patterson, local favorite Mollie Hunsberger and 2000 Olympian Tasha Schwikert were among the 10 athletes in the trials chosen for the training camp. Three more athletes were added through

Sports briefs

injury petition, including Chelsie Mummel, a double gold medalist in last year's world championships.

That means there will be 15 athletes attending the selection camp, the same number as in the trials. After losing half of her team in last summer's world championships to injury or illness, Karolyi is taking no chances. She'll put the dozen hopefuls through a pressure-packed two-day competition before she and two others choose the remaining four athletes and three alternates on July 18.

"We left the squad pretty large so we make sure we have the right people to select at the right time," Karolyi said.

NHRA driver dies after dragster breaks up

MADISON, Ill. — Drag racer Darrell Russell died Sunday after his car broke up while traveling about 300 mph and burst into flames during a Top Fuel race at Gateway International Raceway.

Russell had crossed the finish line on the quarter-mile strip and deployed his parachute when his dragster came apart in the second round of eliminations in the NHRA Nationals.

The car rolled to a halt near a guard wall and the fire was quickly put out. The 35-year-old from Hockley, Texas, was unconscious when cut from the wreckage, immobilized by a brace and placed on a backboard. He was taken by helicopter to the St. Louis University Medical Center, where he was pronounced dead about two hours later.

Russell is the first driver killed in competition in an NHRA national event since Blaine Johnson died in a crash during a qualifying run in the 1996 U.S. Nationals in Indianapolis.

Russell, the 2001 NHRA rookie of the year, had six career Top Fuel victories, including the Pontiac Excitement Nationals two weeks ago in Columbus, Ohio.

SaberCats win Arena Bowl

PHOENIX — Mark Grieb set a record with eight touchdown passes, James Roe

caught five to tie three more records and the San Jose SaberCats beat the Arizona Rattlers 69-62 Sunday for their second ArenaBowl title in three years.

After nearly an hour of unrelenting offense, the final minute of the Arena Football League championship turned on defense.

Arizona scored with 31 seconds left to get within 63-62, but coach Danny White opted for a 2-point conversion. Sherrick Bonner rolled left and passed low to Hunkie Cooper, but San Jose's Omar Smith broke up the pass.

Then San Jose guard Chuck Reed took the ensuing outside kick, lumbering 7 yards to score with 30 seconds remaining.

But Dan Frantz missed the point after, leaving Arizona within seven points.

As time ticked off, Bonner found Orshawante Bryant for three first downs — the last a 15-yard catch setting up the Rattlers on the San Jose 2 with two seconds left. Rashied Davis smothered Hunkie Cooper on Arizona's final play, knocking down Bonner's pass as the clock expired.

Who didn't believe? The coach, for one

BY ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — After Texas swept a two-game series with Cal State Fullerton in early March, a Longhorns coach walked past Titans coach George Horton.

"See you in Omaha," the Texas coach said.

Horton, who had just witnessed his team's meager three-hit output in a 3-1 loss, wasn't so sure.

"I'll be watching on TV," he replied.

How things changed.

The Titans, 9-10 at the time of Horton's gloomy prediction, are now national champions after completing a surprising sweep of top-seeded Texas in the College World Series on Sunday.

Following his team's title-clinching 3-2 victory over the Longhorns in the best-of-three final, Horton recalled his earlier comments.

"That's how I felt at that particular time," Horton said. "I guess (pitcher) Ricky Romero and a couple other guys overheard me, and maybe they used that as a motivating factor, that they could prove even the old coach wrong."

"They proved not only me wrong, but they proved thousands and thousands wrong out there. Maybe I'll use that as my opening speech next year so maybe we'll get off to a better start."

The Titans won their first national title since 1985 and have now won titles in each of the last four decades (1979, 1984, 1995, 2004).

Fullerton's four national titles match Miami for fifth on the NCAA list. Southern



Cal State Fullerton coach George Horton, who never really thought this team would make it to Omaha, gets an ice shower after his team upset Texas to win the NCAA baseball title.

Cal has 12 and Texas, Arizona State and LSU have five each.

It was an unlikely journey to the title for Fullerton.

A 10-1 loss at home to Long Beach State on April 3 dropped the Titans to 15-16.

The season turned with a 9-3 victory over the 49ers the next day. That victory started a 32-6 stretch that brought Fullerton to a 47-22 finish.

Horton said it was appropriate that senior pitcher Jason Windsor, selected the

College World Series MVP, and junior catcher Kurt Suzuki were instrumental in the clinching victory over the Longhorns.

Windsor pitched a complete-game five-hitter and Suzuki drove in the winning run with an RBI single in the seventh inning.

Windsor's season mirrored that of his team. He started 1-4 before rolling off 12 straight victories. His 1.84 ERA ranked fifth nationally coming into the CWS, and he lowered it to 1.71 after giving up two

earned runs in 21 innings. He threw 322 pitches in the Series.

"The only thing I was concerned about was whether we were going to go to the well too many times with a thin pitching staff and wear him down," Horton said. "Knock on wood that he comes out of this stretch drive as healthy as he was during the stretch drive."

Windsor, a third-round pick of the Oakland Athletics, was 5-0 in the postseason with a 0.61 ERA.

He threw two complete games in the College World Series, shutting out South Carolina on a three-hitter and then throwing a five-hitter against the Longhorns. He also picked up a save in the Titans' second game against South Carolina.

"That was a major-league performance," said Texas coach Augie Garrido, who came to the Longhorns after coaching Fullerton to its first three national titles. Suzuki, a second-round pick of the A's, came to Omaha with the nation's fifth-best batting average, at .437. But he was in a 2-for-20 slump before stepping to the plate in the seventh with the go-ahead run on second base.

"I had nothing to show for this Series, but I was swinging the bat fine," Suzuki said. "My teammates were sticking behind me, and they kept telling me my time was going to come when we need it most."

Even though Suzuki had been slumping, Horton said he liked having him at bat in the seventh.

"P.J. (Pillittere) was standing next to me in the dugout, and I told him, 'We've got the best hitter in America up in this spot. How about that?'"

Now Horton can say he's got the best team, too.

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Contreras family reunion a winner

Pitcher's wife, kids are honored guests as Yankees sweep Mets

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The hugs and kisses said it all for Jose Contreras. With his family looking on, he became the dominating pitcher of the New York Yankees expected all along.

Making his first start since his wife and children defected from Cuba last week, Contreras struck out a career-high 10 in six shutout innings, beating the New York Mets 8-1 Sunday in the opener of a day-night doubleheader.

Baseball roundup

several.

"I thought my dad was going to win," said 11-year-old Nayan Contreras, watching her father pitch in the major leagues for the first time.

In the second game, Mike Mussina (9-4) improved to 8-0 over his last 11 starts with an 11-6 victory, matching his career high for consecutive victories.

The Yankees have a 5½-game lead in the AL East heading into at three-game series with Boston. Ruben Sierra hit a three-run homer in a six-run first off Matt Ginter (1-2) and added a third run single in the seventh after the Mets had closed to 7-5.

Miguel Cairo hit a solo homer and had a two-run single for the Yankees, who beat the Mets twice in the same day for the third time since interleague play began in 1997.

Rebounding from a 9-3 loss in Saturday's Subway Series opener, the Yankees have won nine of their last 10 against their cross-town rival.

"Today was a tough day for us," Mets manager Art Howe said. "They took it to us both games."

During a news conference between games, Contreras was accompanied by wife Miriam and their two daughters. While Nayan sat on her mother's lap, the pitcher sat next to them holding 3-year-old Naylenis, repeatedly kissing her head and squeezing her after she nodded off and fell asleep.

He dedicated his victory to his family and to "the people of Cuba who support me."

"During the game, I didn't think about my family," he said through a translator. "I concentrated on getting one out after another. I knew after the game my family would be here."

And that presence, he said, "gave me more motivation."

Contreras stifled the Mets on two hits until cramps in his forearm and thumb forced him out three pitches into the seventh.

Derek Jeter, who turned 30 a day earlier, backed Contreras with two solo homers off Steve Trachsel (7-6), and Gary Sheffield homered for the second straight day. Hideki Matsui added an eighth-inning grand slam on the first pitch after former Yankee Mike Stanton entered.

Padres 5, Mariners 1: Jeff Cirillo hit a three-run homer against his former team and Adam Eaton pitched into the seventh, leading visiting San Diego over Seattle.

Eaton (4-7) worked 6½ innings, allowing one run and three hits with four strikeouts and two walks as the Padres won two in the three-game series. Jamie Moyer (6-4) went five innings, allowing five runs — three earned — and four hits with two walks and three strikeouts.

Giants 5, Athletics 2: Barry Bonds hit his first home run in 13 games and Marquis Grissom also



Ruben Sierra is about to launch a three-run home run off New York Mets pitcher Matt Ginter, the highlight of a six-run first inning that helped the New York Yankees to an 11-6 victory over the Mets on Sunday night.

homered in visiting San Francisco's 12th win in 14 games.

Bonds hit an 0-1 pitch from Mark Redman (6-4) into the seats in right-center for his 19th homer — and No. 677 of his career. He hadn't homered since June 13 at Baltimore, a span of 32 at-bats.

The solo shot tied the game 1-1. Redman, pitching on three days' rest, had retired seven straight before the homer. Bonds drew two more walks, one intentional. He has been walked a major

league-leading 109 times through 66 games, 57 times intentionally.

Dustin Hermanson (3-2) won for the first time in four starts and ended a string of three straight no-decisions.

Dodgers 10, Angels 5: Adrian Beltré hit two homers and drove in a season-high five runs and the host Dodgers snapped a six-game losing streak.

The victory was the Dodgers' first since winning two of three

the previous weekend against the New York Yankees and it also ended their six-game losing streak to the Angels dated last season.

Kazuhisa Ishii (9-3) won his fourth straight decision, allowing five runs — three earned — in six-plus innings.

Bartolo Colon (5-7) allowed eight hits and eight runs in 3½ innings — his shortest outing this season — while losing for the fifth time in six decisions.

Cotton candy, lots of cameras and a nap on Daddy's lap

By LISA OLSON

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — Even the most hardened of souls had to smile. Little Naylenis, her mouth still sticky with cotton candy, yawned loudly, gave her daddy a peck on the cheek and nuzzled in for an afternoon nap. Her forehead was adorned with the sort of fake jewels American girls love. She wore a red Yankees shirt, just like her sister, and when Jose Contreras gently fixed her ponytail and whispered don't be afraid of the cameras, Naylenis practically melted in his lap.

Her daddy's lap. Nothing in her life will ever be more important.

Contreras pitched marvelously

Commentary

Sunday. He had supreme confidence in his split-finger, deftly eased out of tight spots, laughed often and even stole a few glances at the Stadium luxury suite, where 3-year-old Naylenis and Nayan, 11, and their mother Miriam witnessed their first baseball game on American soil. They were treated like royal princesses, security guards threatened to arrest anyone who crossed the line, or dared ask how it was they were able to escape Cuba. Welcome to America, and pass the hot dogs.

"I now know the decision I

made two years ago was the right one," Contreras said after the Yankees beat the Mets 8-1 in the first of a day-night doubleheader. His wife and daughters snuggled closely, Naylenis so exhausted she could not stay awake, Nayan too adorable for words, Miriam looking like a woman who had just risked everything — her life, her children's lives — in order to be reunited with the husband she had not seen in 21 months, since he sneaked away from Cuba's national team and signed with the Yankees for \$32 million.

The family's defection was as much a matter of decision as the visitors' clubhouse as Contreras' dominance.

"You hear so much criticism of

our country," said Mike Piazza, "it's funny how so many people want to keep coming here."

Last week alone, in four incidents, 34 Cuban migrants were intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard at sea and returned to the Caribbean island. Luckers for the Contreras and 16 others on their speedboat, the Coast Guard could not catch them during a three-hour chase last Sunday night. You wonder what that says about our crack homeland security.

According to people close to Miriam, she feared the pitfalls and perks of a big league player's life would wreck their marriage. She heard about the voracious groupies and fretted she might lose Jose to another woman. They

were married when he was 16, she a year younger, and the five-year wait for permission to leave their Communist homeland was unbearable. Five times she and the girls attempted to defect, five times they were caught and detained, until last Sunday night, when a red smuggler's boat mysteriously appeared on Guanabo Beach in Havana and whisked them away to the Florida Keys.

"From the first time I stepped foot in this country," Miriam Contreras said, "I prayed to God to help Jose have a good outing." Contreras left to a standing ovation from some 37,000, including two little girls in a luxury suite who were jonesing on a sugar rush. You didn't have to be a Yankees fan to appreciate its sweetness.

SPORTS



Contreras wins first start
since family defected
from Cuba, Page 31

Top seeds extend streaks

No. 1 Federer, No. 2 Roddick into quarters at Wimbledon

BY STEPHEN WILSON
The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Defending champion Roger Federer extended his grass-court winning streak to 21 matches Monday, setting up a showdown with 2002 winner Lleyton Hewitt in the Wimbledon quarterfinals.

In a match featuring only one break of serve, Federer beat 6-foot-10 Ivo Karlovic of Croatia — the tallest player in the game — 6-3, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5). Federer hasn't been broken or dropped a set all tournament.

Hewitt lost his first set of the championships but overcame ninth-seeded Carlos Moya 6-4, 6-2, 4-6, 7-6 (3).

"I believe I can beat him," Hewitt said of Federer. "It's going to be an extremely tough match. He's the best player out there at the moment. He's not No. 1 for nothing."

Second-ranked Andy Roddick, meanwhile, continued his own run to the quarters without the loss of a set, defeating unseeded Alexander Popp 7-5, 6-4, 6-4.

Roddick needed five match points, finally closing it out with a forehand passing shot. He raised his arms, tipped his cap and saluted the Court 1 crowd. Roddick had 14 break points, converting four. Popp — a two-time quarterfinalist here — broke Roddick twice.

Roddick credited his improved service return for the victory.

"I broke him three times in the third set," he said. "I'm not sure if I would have done that two years ago."

The day ended with Tim Henman holding off Mark Philippoussis — last year's runner-up — 6-2, 5-7, 6-7 (3), 7-6 (5) in a 3-hour, 7-minute match. Henman, bidding to become the first British player to win the men's title since 1936, reached the quarterfinals for the eighth time in nine years. He's lost four times in the semifinals.

Sebastian Grosjean was the first player to make the men's quarterfinals, beating Robby Ginepri 6-2, 6-2, 7-6 (4). The Frenchman, who reached the



Andy Roddick plays a return to Germany's Alexander Popp on Monday at Wimbledon. Roddick has yet to lose a set in the tournament, and advanced to the quarterfinals with a 7-5, 6-4, 6-4 victory.

semis here last year, hasn't dropped a set in four matches.

Sjeng Schalken reached the final eight for the third straight year, beating Vince Spadea 6-2, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2. Mario Ancic, a

20-year-old Croat, made the quarters when Xavier Malisse quit with a lower back problem while trailing 7-5, 3-1.

Also advancing was Florian Mayer, who continued his improb-

able run in his first Wimbledon by beating Sweden's Joachim Johansson 6-3, 6-7, (5), 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Mayer, a 20-year-old German

SEE TENNIS ON PAGE 28



Kuppets, McCool
take big step
toward Athens in
gymnastics trials

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Fullerton made
believer out of
coach with College
World Series win

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Gordon ends
road course slump
with Sonoma win

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Balanced Lunke ready to defend U.S. Open title

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